

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works

**Colton Sanitary Landfill
Final Closure/Post-Closure Maintenance Plan
Colton, CA**

Lead Agency



County of San Bernardino
Department of Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division
222 West Hospitality Ln
San Bernardino, Ca 9415-0017

Technical assistance provided by:



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1905 Business Center Drive
San Bernardino, CA 92408

June 2021

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ACRONYMS

AB	Assembly Bill
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
BACM	Best Available Control Measures
BACT	Best Available Control Technology
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
Cfs	Cubic feet per second
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CH4	Methane
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
CQA	Construction Quality Assurance
CSL	Colton Sanitary Landfill
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
ET	Evapotranspiration
FCP	Final Closure Plan
FCPMP	Final Closure Post-Closure Maintenance Plan
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
LCRS	Leachate Collection and Removal System
LEA	Local Enforcement Agency
LFG	Landfill Gas
LLDPE	Linear Low-Density Polyethylene
MTCO2e	Metric Tons of CO2 equivalent
MVSL	Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill
N2O	Nitrous Oxide
NOx	Nitrous Oxides
OPR	Office of Planning and Research
PM	Particulate Matter
PVC	Polyvinyl chloride
ROG	Reactive Organic Gases
RWQBC	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SARWQCB	Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
SB	Senate Bill
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCE	Southern California Edison
SMBMI	San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
SWFP	Solid Waste Facility Permit
SWMD	Solid Waste Management District
TCR	Tribal Cultural Resources
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
WDR	Waste Discharge Requirements

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

Background

The Colton Sanitary Landfill (CSL) is located within the City of Colton approximately 1.5 miles south of Interstate 10 and less than one-mile northwest of Interstate 215 (Figure 1). Access to the facility is by Tropica Rancho Road from La Cadena Drive (Figure 2). The facility occupies approximately 113 acres of land including portions of Section 25, T1S, R5W; Section 31, T1S, R4W; and Section 30, T1S, R4W, of San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. The permitted disposal footprint covers an area of approximately 82 acres. The refuse footprint includes lands owned by the County of San Bernardino Department of Transportation and Flood Control. The landfill is bounded by the Santa Ana River to the north and west and the La Loma Hills to the south and east.

The County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works (County) Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) is seeking approval of a Final Closure/Post-Closure Maintenance Plan (FCPMP) for the CSL (see Figure 3 Site Plan). A FCPMP was approved by CalRecycle in February 2016, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (SARWQCB) in July 2015, and the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) in March 2015. The plan included an evapotranspiration (ET) final cover system utilizing belt-press soil imported from the Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill (MVSL). Belt press soil is a byproduct of the Robertson's Ready Mix Plant operations for aggregate recovery located at the MVSL. The design included a 3-foot thick ET cover placed over a 1-foot interim cover soil to meet the applicable regulatory standards prescribed in 27 CCR, Chapters 3 and 4 and 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Subpart F. Due to the lack of available belt-press material, cost of blending, and cost of importation, SWMD requested concurrence from the SARWQCB to use a Linear Low-Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) geomembrane with Closure Turf Ballast¹ (Closure Turf) as an alternative to the approved final cover system.

Facility Overview

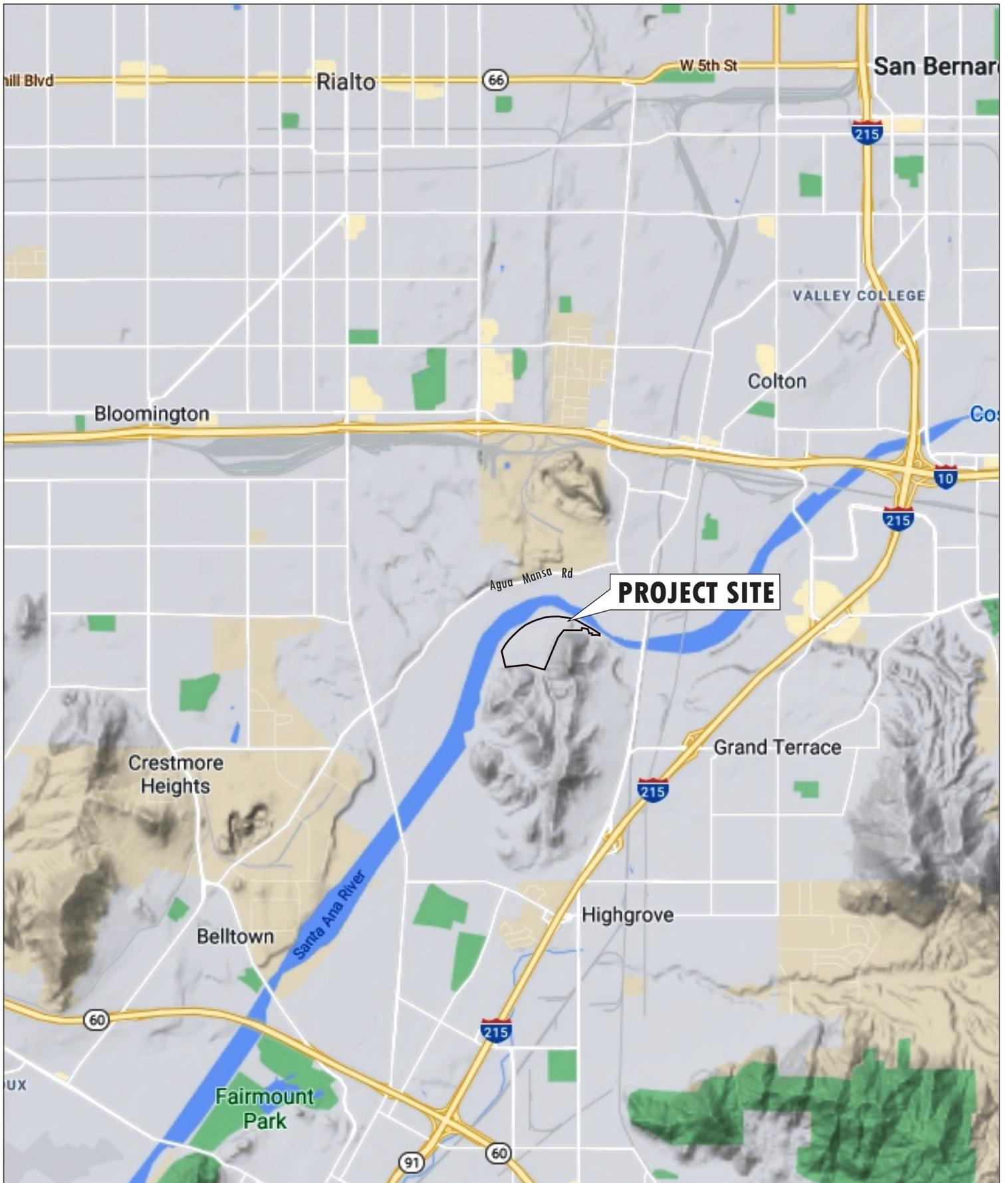
The CSL began operation in 1964 and ceased accepting waste on December 31, 2014. The landfill is classified as a Class III disposal facility, permitted to accept non-hazardous solid wastes in accordance with waste classification regulations in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (27 CCR), Sections 20220 and 20230.

The landfill is located on 113 acres and was operated utilizing the area fill method of refuse placement. The current permitted disposal area footprint is approximately 88 acres. However, SWMD elected to not expand the existing refuse footprint beyond 82 acres at this time.

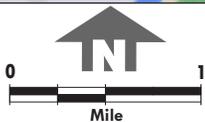
Slurry Trench Cutoff Wall

In 1995, a slurry trench cutoff wall was constructed along the northern perimeter road between the toe of the landfill and the Santa Ana River. In conjunction with the cutoff wall construction, embankment protection measures consisting of gabion mats for scour protection and rip rap for slope protection were installed along the Santa Ana Riverbank north of the perimeter road.

¹ ClosureTurf is a three-component system comprised of a structured geomembrane, an engineered turf, and a specialized sand infill. The foundation of the system is an impermeable, highly transmissive structured geomembrane. It provides for the highest interface friction values available in the market. The engineered turf component gives the system its natural look and feel of grass while protecting the geomembrane from extreme weather conditions for the long term.



PROJECT SITE



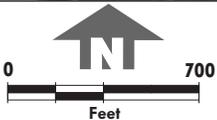
Source: Lilburn Corp., January, 2021.

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REGIONAL LOCATION

Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure Plan
County of San Bernardino Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division

FIGURE 1



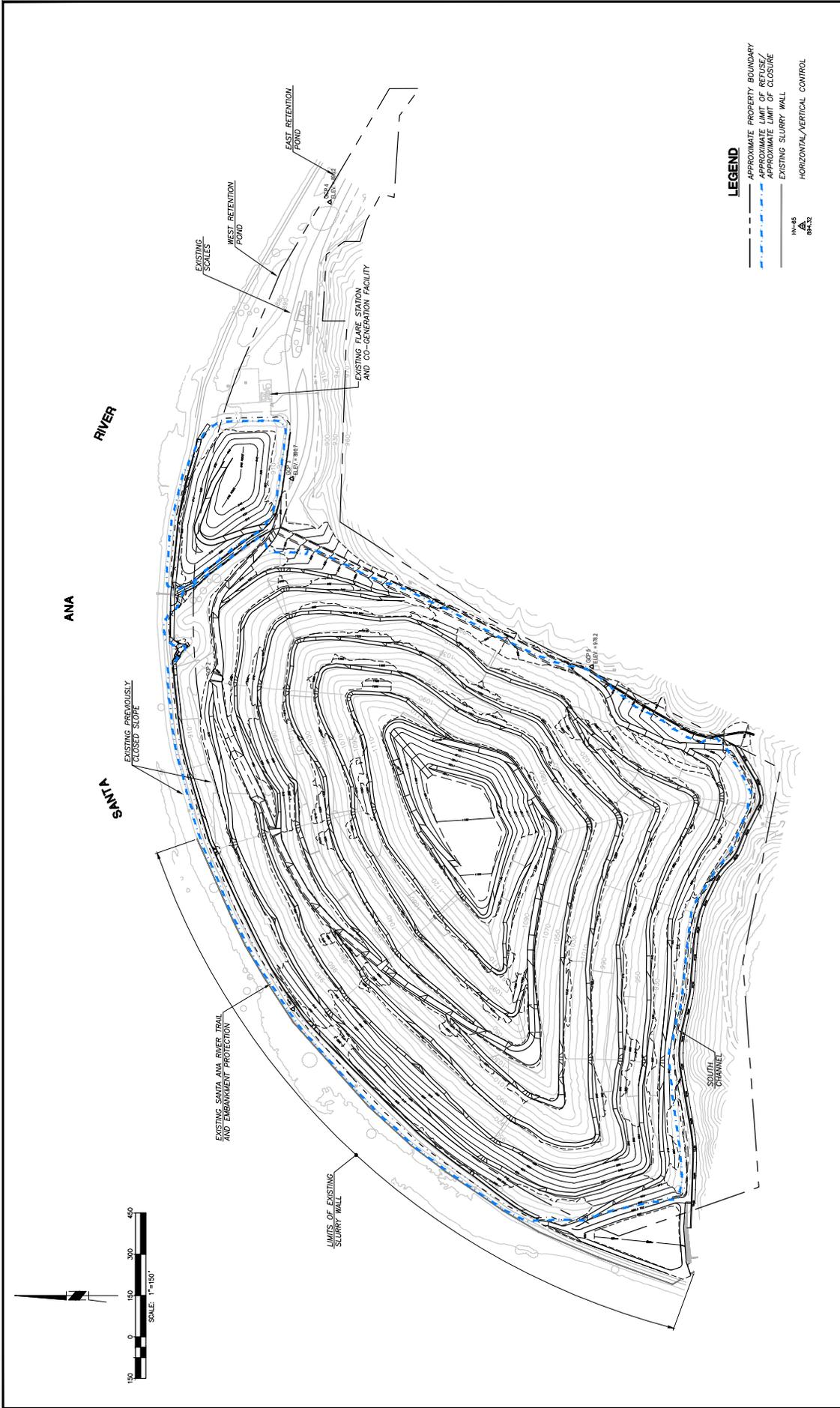
Source: Lilburn Corp., January, 2021.

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PROJECT VICINITY

Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure Plan
County of San Bernardino Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division

FIGURE 2



LEGEND - - - - - APPROXIMATE PROPERTY BOUNDARY - - - - - APPROXIMATE LIMIT OF REFUSE - - - - - APPROXIMATE LIMIT OF CLOSURE ——— EXISTING SLURRY WALL ——— HORIZONTAL/VERTICAL CONTROL		DATE OF AERIAL TOPOGRAPHY: NOVEMBER 5, 2019	
REVISIONS NO. DATE DESCRIPTION		FIELD CHANGES CHANGES: NO CHANGES REVISION ENGINEER: DATE:	
MARK DATE		APPROVED BY: COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS DRAWN BY: A.J.T. R.M.G. DESIGNED BY: R.M.G. CHECKED BY: R.M.G. SUBMITTED BY: R.M.G. RECOMMENDED / APPROVED BY: R.M.G. DIVISION MANAGER: R.M.G. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS: R.M.G.	
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SITE PLAN
 Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure Plan
 County of San Bernardino Public Works
 Solid Waste Management Division
FIGURE 3



South Channel Gabion Wall and Perimeter Road

Design for a South Channel and Perimeter Road was completed in late 1996. The design consisted of prepared foundation soils (5-foot over-excavation and re-compaction) of channel bottom subgrade soil prior to placement of a one-foot thick Reno Mattress. Gabion baskets were installed to support the south perimeter access road. In 1997, south channel improvements consisting of gabion walls with tie-back reinforcement for the north embankment and for scour protection were constructed for the channel adjacent to the south boundary of the landfill. After alternating filling of gabion baskets with 4-to 6-inch rock and backfill and compaction with soil behind the gabions, the South Channel Perimeter Road and Gabion Support Wall was completed.

Phase 1 and 2 Partial Final Closure Construction

In 2000, SWMD constructed the Phase 1 and 2 Partial Final Closure of the lower slopes of the north face of the landfill. The Proposed Project included a 15-foot wide perimeter road (later dedicated as the Santa Ana River Trail). The closure consisted of embankment construction, gabion retaining walls, concrete slope protection or combination of all three. Phase 1 consisted of placement of foundation soil over the existing slopes and Phase 2 consisted of placement of a mono-fill ET final cover system over the foundation soils. This cover system consisted of placing a minimum of 5 feet of soil over an existing 1-foot of interim cover. Phase 1 and 2 Partial Final Closure areas were never formally recognized (certified) as closed by the regulatory agencies.

Phase 1 and Phase 2 Partial Final Cover Soil Removal (Refuse Sliver Fill)

In 2006, SWMD removed the final cover over the Phase 1 and 2 Partial Final Closure areas and began sliver filling waste over these slopes. This refuse fill phase was performed between 2006 and 2009. Final cover improvements over the Santa Ana River Trail area were protected in place.

SECTION 2 – REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The SWMD has identified that the CSL's FCPMP meets the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15378 definition of a Project. CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 defines a Project as the following:

"Project" means the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment."

In accordance with CEQA (Public Resources Code Sections 21000-21177), this Initial Study has been prepared to determine potentially significant impacts upon the environment resulting from the implementation of the Colton FCPMP Project ("Project" or "proposed Project"). In accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines, this Initial Study is a preliminary analysis prepared by the County to inform decision makers, other affected agencies, and the public of potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the Proposed Project.

Final closure of the CSL would be in accordance with applicable regulatory standards included in 27 CCR, Chapters 3 and 4 and 40 CFR, Subpart F.

Initial Study Organization

This Initial Study is organized as follows:

Introduction: Provides the regulatory context for the review along with a brief summary of the CEQA process.

Project Information: Provides fundamental Project information, such as the Project description, Project location and figures.

Lead Agency Determination: Identifies environmental factors potentially affected by the Project and identifies the Lead Agency's determination based on the initial evaluation.

Negative Declaration/Mitigated Negative Declaration: Prepared when a determination can be made that no significant environmental effects will occur because revisions to the Project have been made or mitigation measures will be implemented, which will reduce all potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Evaluating Environmental Impacts: Provides the parameters the Lead Agency uses when determining level of impact.

CEQA Checklist: Provides an environmental checklist and accompanying analysis for responding to checklist questions.

References: Includes a list of references and various resources utilized in preparing the analysis.

SECTION 3 – DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The SWMD is pursuing approval of a revised FCPMP for the CSL from applicable regulatory agencies. A plan was approved by CalRecycle in February 2016, the SARWQCB in July 2015, and the LEA in March 2015. The plan included an ET final cover system utilizing belt-press soil imported from the MVSL. Belt press soil is a byproduct of the Robertson's Ready Mix Plant operations for aggregate recovery located at the MVSL. The design included a 3-foot thick ET cover placed over a 1-foot interim cover soil to meet the applicable regulatory standards prescribed in 27 CCR, Chapters 3 and 4 and 40 CFR, Subpart F. Due to the lack of available belt-press material, cost of blending, and cost of importation, SWMD requested concurrence from the SARWQCB to use a LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf as an alternative to the approved final cover system.

The benefits of using a LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf final cover system include:

- Cost savings as implementing an ET final soil cover including cost associated with material processing, mixed/blending, and transport from MVSL to CSL is substantially greater than the use of a LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf.
- LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf offers superior barrier layer (permeability) performance (approximately 1.0×10^{-14} cm/sec).
- Time of construction for the LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf is approximately one year versus two years as required for the ET soil cover.
- A LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf is expected to require 80-90 percent less maintenance cost than a traditional soil cover.
- The final cover system can more easily incorporate the existing Gas Collection and Control System.
- A LLDPE geomembrane and Closure Turf Final Cover provides erosion control that exceeds a traditional soil cover when comparing analytical testing results.

Final closure of the CSL would be in accordance with applicable regulatory standards included in 27 CCR, Chapters 3 and 4 and 40 CFR, Subpart F.

The Site Plan (Figure 3) identifies the landfill boundary, limits of refuse footprint, other major site facilities, the 2019 site topography, and the landfill buffer zones. The proposed final contours of the site, which provide the vertical grading limits of the landfill, will be modified to maintain bench and top deck drainage prior to placing the final cover system. The components and systems required for closure of the CSL include: the final grading plan, final cover design, drainage and erosion control systems, landfill gas (LFG) monitoring system, groundwater monitoring system, site security, and structure removal. A description of each of these closure components is provided herein.

Final Grading

General construction procedures will be utilized to promote the lateral run-off of surface water and minimize the effects of settlement. Figure 4 - Final Grading Plan presents the proposed landfill configuration after final closure. The deck area will be set at a minimum gradient of 3 percent, which will provide adequate drainage from the top deck, while considering projected future landfill settlement. The final cover will then be placed over the refuse prism areas (see Figure 5 – Final Cover System). The final slopes of the CSL would not exceed a maximum grade of 2:1 (horizontal to vertical). The slopes will be contoured to channel surface water to the drainage control features.

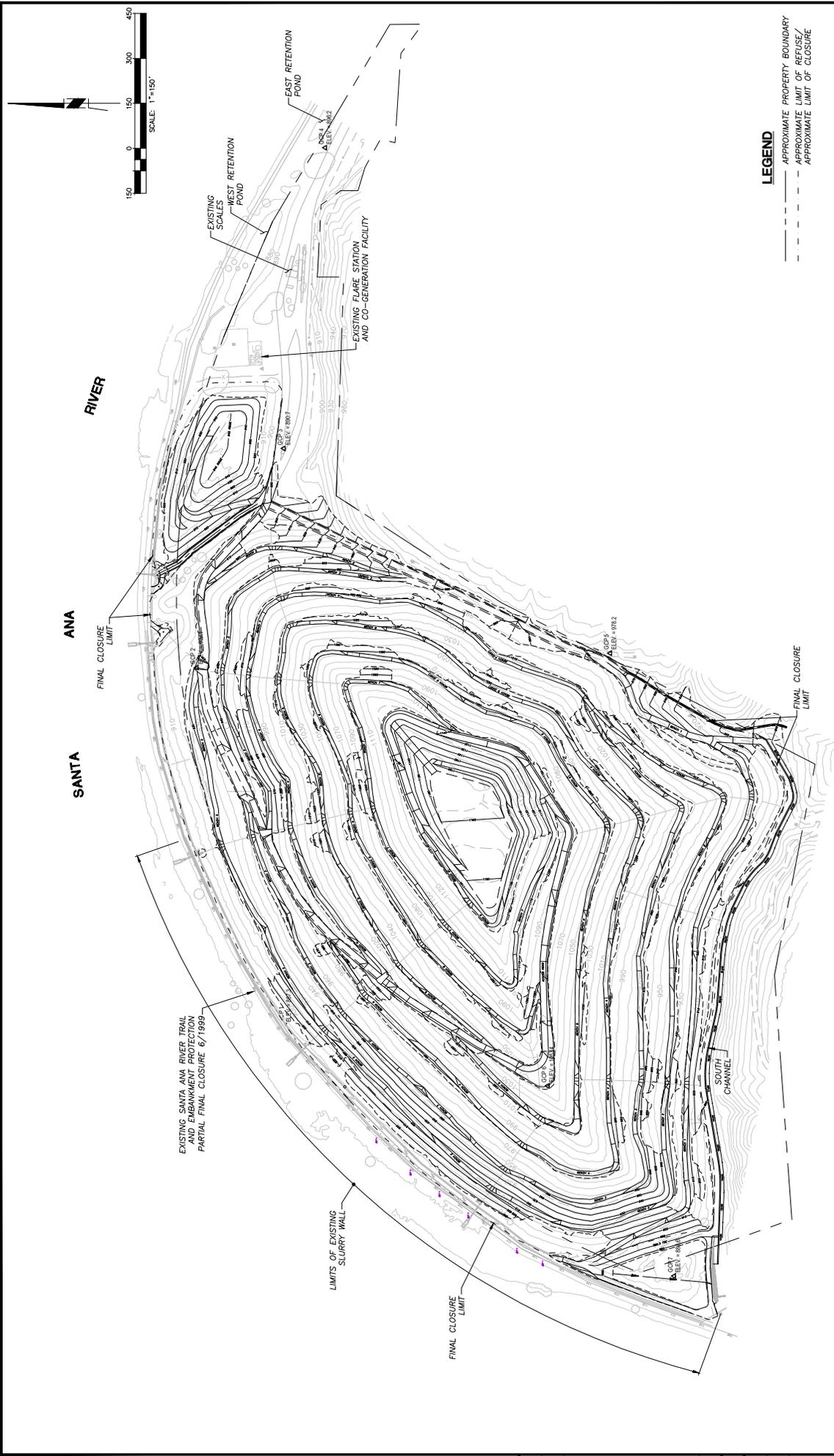


FIGURE 5

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
COLTON SANITARY LANDFILL
FINAL CLOSURE CONSTRUCTION
GRADING PLAN

DATE: 11-20 SCALE: AS SHOWN SHEET NO: 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020

APPROVED BY: [Signature] DATE: []

RECOMMENDED / APPROVED BY: [Signature] DATE: []

CHIEF ENGINEER: [Signature] DATE: []

PROJECT NUMBER: [] DATE: []

DATE OF AERIAL TOPOGRAPHY: NOVEMBER 5, 2019

DATE OF FIELD CHANGES: []

RESIDENT ENGINEER: [] DATE: []

MARK CHANGES: []

NO CHANGES: []

FIELD CHANGES: []

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
 No. 41981
 CIVIL ENGINEER
 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

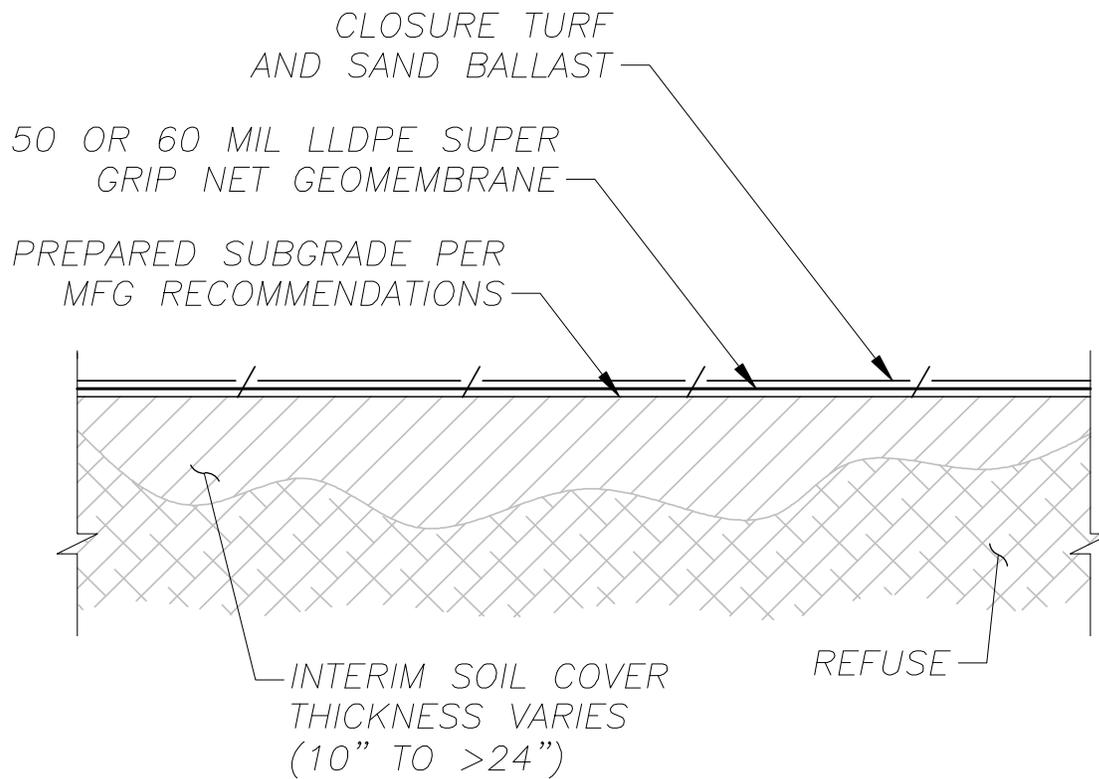
PREPARED BY: **SWT Engineering**
 Civil & Environmental
 800-C SOUTH ROCHESTER AVENUE
 ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA 91761

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF: [Signature]

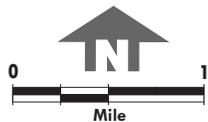
Source: SWT Engineering, Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure Construction Project Description, November 2020, Figure 5.

FINAL GRADING PLAN
Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure Plan
 County of San Bernardino Public Works
 Solid Waste Management Division
FIGURE 4





Source: SWT Engineering. Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure Construction Project Description. November 2020. Figure 6.



Source: Lilburn Corp., January, 2021.

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FINAL COVER SYSTEM
Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure Plan
County of San Bernardino Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division

FIGURE 5

No additional grading is required along the northern perimeter road. The partial final closure constructed in 1999 consisted of embankment protection and cover material, which raised the perimeter road approximately 6 feet. Perimeter road drainage elements (curbs, inlets, and paved cross slopes) enhanced the closure of this area. The closure along the perimeter road was protected in place. This area will be certified, along with the remaining landfill, when the final cover project is completed.

As previously stated, the cover material was removed from the lower slopes (from the perimeter road to the second bench) to recoup refuse airspace in 2006. This area will require additional grading and final cover.

Proposed Final Cover Design

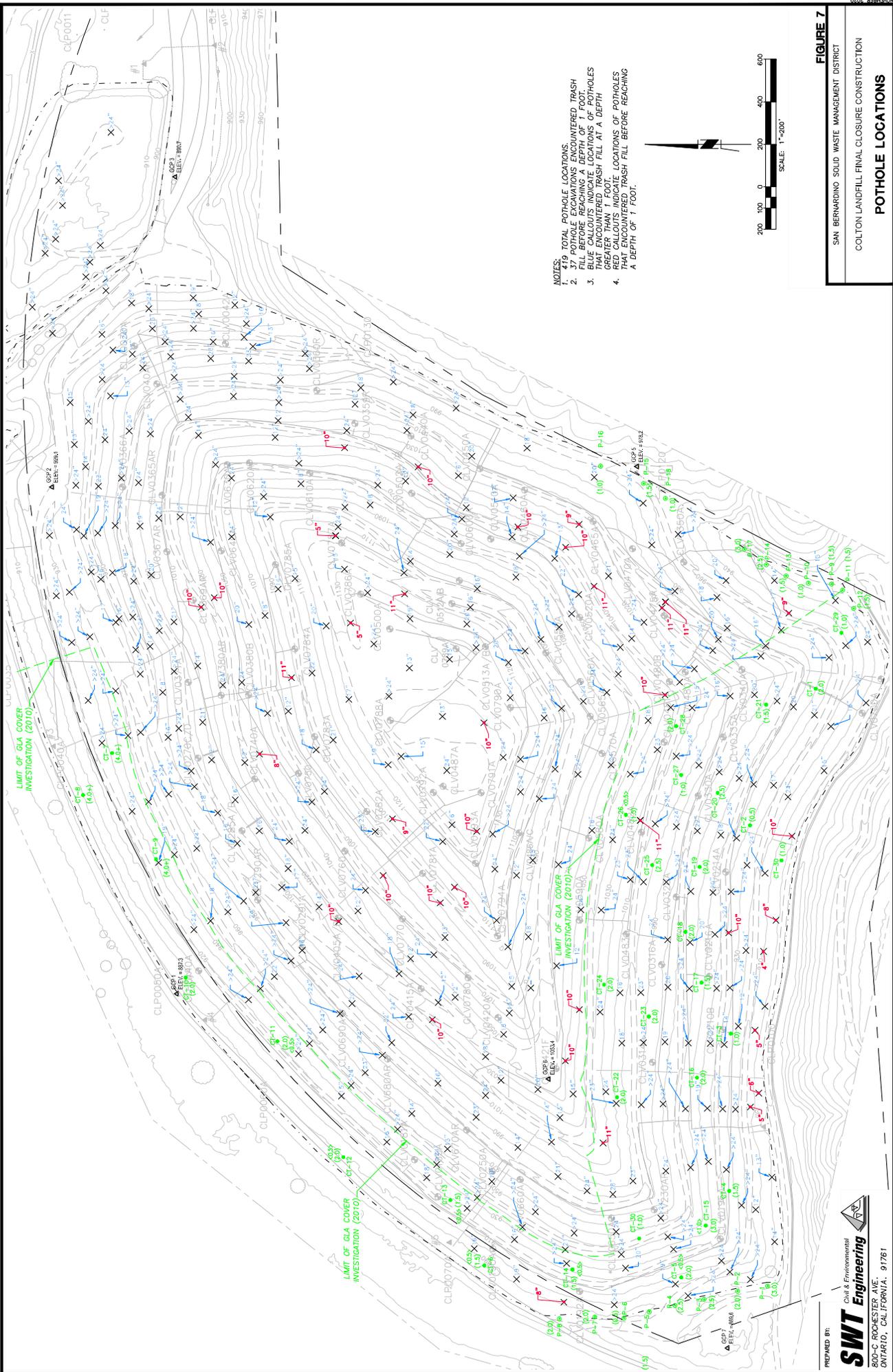
Several factors were taken into consideration in determining the cover design for the CSL, including the geometry of the existing landfill, climatic conditions (i.e., arid environment, low rainfall, high evaporation rate), potential landfill settlement, available cover materials (and required screening, mixing/blending), import haul distance/cost, erosion protection, vegetative growth, and end use at closure. Based on these parameters, it was determined that an alternative final cover design utilizing a LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf was the most appropriate cover system.

It has been concluded that the site-specific climatological and soil conditions support the use of the proposed alternative final cover design utilizing a LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf. The design would meet or exceed the prescribed performance criteria and would be more economical for site closure than prescriptive standards.

Therefore, the geomembrane alternative final cover design for the CSL would consist of the following:

- An existing variable thickness foundation layer (manufacturer recommends a minimum of 6-inches) composed of existing soil materials, which have been verified to be in-place for final cover quantity (see Figure 6 for Interim Cover Thickness Verification). The foundation layer (existing interim cover layer) will be compacted to the maximum density obtainable at optimum moisture content using methods that are in accordance with accepted engineering practices.
- Foundation fill soil material to maintain bench gradient or width - this material will be from on-site soil excavation resulting from the excavation of the South Basin, or soil from a local approved import borrow area, which will meet approved specifications for maximum particle size and compaction.
- Subgrade preparation for the placement of geosynthetics (moisture conditioning, compaction, smooth drum rolling, etc.).
- Placement of the LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf geotextile cover; anchor trenches at top and bottom of slope; and intermediate bench horizontal anchor (light or heavy vehicle driving surface or bench ballast).
- Installation of bench crossings and downdrains, with concrete transition to existing headwall and pipe outlet to the Santa Ana River.

It is estimated that the permeability of a LLDPE geomembrane is approximately 1.0×10^{-14} centimeters per second. This significantly exceeds the prescriptive standard of 1×10^{-6} centimeters per second and for reasons identified earlier, a traditional barrier layer is not proposed for the final cover design.



- NOTES:**
1. 419 TOTAL POT HOLE LOCATIONS.
 2. RED CALLOUTS INDICATE TRASH ENCOUNTERED, TRASH FILL BEFORE REACHING A DEPTH OF 1 FOOT.
 3. BLUE CALLOUTS INDICATE LOCATIONS OF POT HOLES THAT ENCOUNTERED TRASH FILL AT A DEPTH OF 1 FOOT.
 4. RED CALLOUTS INDICATE LOCATIONS OF POT HOLES THAT ENCOUNTERED TRASH FILL BEFORE REACHING A DEPTH OF 1 FOOT.

FIGURE 7
 SAN BERNARDINO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
 COLTON LANDFILL FINAL CLOSURE CONSTRUCTION
POT HOLE LOCATIONS

SOURCE: SWT ENGINEERING, COLTON SANITARY LANDFILL FINAL CLOSURE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT DESCRIPTION, NOVEMBER 2020. FIGURE 7.

INTERIM COVER THICKNESS VERIFICATION

Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure Plan

County of San Bernardino Public Works
 Solid Waste Management Division

FIGURE 6

PREPARED BY:
SWT Engineering
 Civil & Environmental
 800-C ROCHESTER AVE.
 ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA 91761



The alternative final cover configuration has been designed to: 1) ensure the containment of waste materials; 2) minimize the infiltration of water from rain by providing a geomembrane cover with Closure Turf; 3) prevent exposure of people and animals to waste; 4) limit LFG emissions; 5) minimize odor; 6) control fires; and 7) provide for an aesthetically pleasing appearance.

Sources of Foundation Fill Material

The Proposed Project would require approximately 150,000 cubic yards of foundation fill soils. The excavation of the on-site South Basin will provide approximately 24,000 cubic yards of foundation fill soils for the final closure of the CSL. Therefore, an additional 126,000 cubic yards of soil import or recovery from other CSL areas will be necessary. Approval of this design by the SARWQCB, is required prior to implementation of this alternative final cover system. SWMD will notify the RWQCB, LEA, and CalRecycle of changes to the borrow sources and related costs, if any. Currently, adequate soils are expected to be available locally for import.

Clearing and Grubbing

Prior to final grading and placement of the cover, existing vegetative materials would be removed from the decks and slopes of the landfill without disturbing the underlying refuse. All materials generated by the clearing and grubbing operation shall be buried in either the lower mound deck or the upper deck and covered with a minimum 1-foot (interim cover) of compacted foundation layer material.

Foundation Fill

Compacted foundation fill material will be added in areas to provide a minimum three percent gradient for flow of storm water. The majority of the site has an existing one-foot thick interim cover in-place. This interim cover will be scarified and re-compacted prior to placement of additional foundation layer material for bench or deck gradient enhancement. The thickness of interim cover has been verified by potholing and the interim cover thickness map are included in Figure 6.

The entire foundation layer will be compacted to the maximum density obtainable at optimum moisture content using methods that are in accordance with accepted engineering practices. Moisture-density relationships for these materials will be developed upon final determination of the borrow source. Testing of the foundation and foundation fill materials will be done in accordance with the approved Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) Plan. The entire foundation layer (liner subgrade) will be surface prepared and smooth drum rolled to accept geosynthetics. Prior to placing geosynthetic materials, 24-inch High Density Polyethylene N-12 Half-Round Downdrain Berms will be installed above prepared subgrade, and bench road drainage crossings will be graded prior to placing geosynthetic materials.

Placement of Geosynthetics

Placement of LLDPE geomembrane over prepared subgrade would be performed according to the manufacturer's recommended installation guidelines and the CQA Plan. All bench and access roads, as well as slope, deck, and reconsolidation areas, will first be covered with the LLDPE geomembrane followed by the Closure Turf, which would then be loaded with a ½-inch thick sand ballast pursuant to manufacturer's recommendations. The Main Access Road, Easterly Perimeter Road, and all-weather asphalt concrete drivable benches pavement sections include asphalt concrete over base material, over geotextile cushioning, and over the geosynthetics final cover.

Access Roads – Deck and Easterly Perimeter

The final closure will include paving the Main Access Road, Easterly Perimeter Road, and selected all-weather asphalt concrete drivable benches. Currently, the landfill entrance road is paved with asphalt to approximately 100 feet beyond the scale house. Post-closure construction will extend the asphalt road to the top deck area of the CSL. The access road will provide vehicular access to perform post-closure maintenance and monitoring of the final cover and drainage facilities. Access road cross-slope will incorporate a permanent 18-inch deep paved drainage channel, or a concrete trapezoidal channel.

Perimeter Roads – South Channel and Santa Ana River Trail

The existing South Channel improvements will be incorporated with Final Closure Construction. The temporary 1-foot and 4-foot high 2:1 (height to vertical ratio) earthen slopes will be replaced with additional Gabions (1-foot and 4-foot in height). The existing Type A and Type B Gabion Wall/South Channel Access Road improvements will be improved with the additional Gabion installation (in lieu of existing earthen slopes), access road, slope final cover, anchor trench at toe of slope, and 6-foot chain-link fence.

The entire slope adjacent to the Santa Ana River Trail will receive LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf, including Hydro Binder down-drains and drainage improvements, that connect to existing outlets that discharge to the Santa Ana River. The final cover system will terminate in an anchor trench adjacent to the existing 8-foot high chain-link fence at the south side of the Santa Ana River Trail improvements.

Closure Schedule

SWMD ceased accepting waste material at the CSL on December 31, 2014. SWMD placed appropriate signage up at the CSL notifying the public that the site was no longer open for disposal operations. Currently, the facility is secured with intermediate soil cover placed over the entire refuse footprint. As allowed under 27 CCR, Section 21090(b)(1)(D), SWMD requested a delay from the SARWQCB from starting final closure construction for a period of no longer than five years (i.e., January 2, 2020). Closure design started in November 2019, with final cover modeling and soil testing for the ET cover alternative continuing through March 2020.

The evaluation and subsequent LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf Technical Memorandum requested by and submitted to the SARWQCB, follow-up questions by the SARWQCB, and Design Procurement occurred between April 2020 and October 2020. Initial work on design drawings resulted in an approximate 75 percent drawing submittal in early-December 2020.

A closure implementation schedule for the CSL is presented in Table 1, which delineates the estimated time frame to complete each pre-construction and closure construction tasks as described in the Final Closure Plan (FCP)². In accordance with 40 CFR 258.60, closure construction activities generally commence within 30 days following the final receipt of waste and conclude within 180 days following the beginning of closure. However, SWMD is requesting to begin closure construction around September 2021. Once final closure construction of the CSL begins, the estimated time frame for completion of all construction activities for closure of the site is approximately 13 months, assuming there are no delays due to weather and/or equipment/material delays/personnel downtime.

² A copy of the report is available for review at the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works offices located at 825 E 3rd St, San Bernardino, Room 123, and on their website at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/dpw/Home.aspx>.

**Table 1
 Colton Sanitary Landfill
 Closure Implementation Schedule**

Original Closure Construction Start Date	November 20, 2019
Mobilization	November 20, 2019
Limit of Refuse Determination	November 20, 2019
Foundation Layer Evaluation	November 20, 2019
Revised Closure Design/Amend FCP	Sept. 14, 2020 – January 29, 2021
Agency Approval of Amended FCP	January 29, 2021 - Apr. 1, 2021
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)	Oct. 1, 2020 - May 31, 2021
Revise Construction Documents	Nov. 2, 2020 - Jan. 29, 2021
Bid Process	Apr. 2, 2021 - Aug. 31, 2021
Import Soil (Phase I Material Import) ³	Sept. 1, 2021 - Sept. 30, 2021
Clearing and Grubbing ⁴	Oct. 1, 2021 - Feb. 28, 2022
Foundation Grading ³	Oct. 1, 2021 - Feb. 28, 2022
Placement of Cover System (Closure Turf) ³	Nov. 1, 2021 - Jun. 30, 2022
Place Sand Ballast ³	Feb. 1, 2022 - Jun. 30, 2022
Landfill Gas Control System Modifications	Oct. 1, 2021 - Mar. 31, 2022
Access Roads/Signage	Jul. 1, 2022 - Aug. 31, 2022
Structure Removal/Demolition ³	Jul. 1, 2022 - Aug. 31, 2022
Demobilization/Closure Certification	Sept 1, 2022 – Sept 30, 2022

Construction Management

A construction management team will be on-site during the entire period of construction. The team will be under the direction of a Construction Manager, who will be responsible for the supervision of construction of the various features included in the FCP. The Construction Manager will coordinate the activities of the on-site contractors and will provide a liaison among the design engineers and the contractor(s). Other key staff will include a Site Engineer, who is a County staff representative, and Construction Inspector(s). A survey crew and a CQA crew will be present, as required.

Survey/Settlement Monumentation

In accordance with 27 CCR, Section 20950 (d), survey monuments will be installed to monitor future settlement of the landfill. Typical design for these monuments consists of a galvanized pipe, two inches in diameter and eight inches in length placed in blocks of concrete, 24 inches in diameter by eight inches in depth. A nail and tag will be placed in the center of each monument for identification. The monument design will be utilized (modified as appropriate) for the LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf final cover system.

³ Two phases (Phase I Material Import and Phase II Cover System Construction) for the proposed closure activities were assumed preparation of the Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas analysis.

⁴ To occur during Phase II Construction

Four settlement monuments are proposed in the landfill area and two permanent monuments in accordance with 27 CCR, Section 20950 to provide both horizontal and vertical control points by which to monitor settlement of the final grades during the post-closure period. An aerial photographic survey of the site will be performed and provided to the RWQCB, LEA, and CalRecycle upon completion of closure activities in accordance with 27 CCR, Section 21090(e)(1). The settlement monuments will be surveyed upon completion of all closure construction activities. Additionally, in accordance with 27 CCR, Section 21090(e)(2) requirements, the operator will prepare an iso-settlement map of the entire permitted site footprint every five years throughout the post-closure maintenance period.

Drainage and Erosion Control

The primary function of the surface water drainage control system is to divert and convey stormwater flows in a controlled manner to minimize erosion and potential infiltration of surface water into the refuse prism. The final surface or deck area of the landfill will be sloped to prevent ponding and promote lateral runoff of stormwater, which falls directly onto the landfill.

Proposed Final Drainage Control System

The hydraulic calculations and flow rates for a 100-year, 24-hour storm event were used to design the final drainage control features for the CSL. The final surface area of the landfill decks will be graded at a minimum 3-percent gradient to prevent ponding and promote lateral runoff.

The proposed final drainage design will be integrated into the existing drainage system, as appropriate. The final drainage system will include benches located at 30- to 50-foot maximum vertical intervals.

Flows within the benches will be directed toward downdrains that are placed at locations along the landfill face. On the north and west face of the landfill, downdrains connect to existing drainage outlets through the Santa Ana River embankment. On the east side, a perimeter channel v-ditch and trap channel will be constructed at the interface between the La Loma Hills and the eastern perimeter of the refuse fill area. On the south, drainage will flow into the modified gabion/natural channel. The south channel drains westerly to the Santa Ana River.

The proposed final drainage system features will be permanently installed upon completion of the final cover. These permanent features will be used in conjunction with the interim existing drainage control system throughout the post-closure maintenance period.

Landfill Gas Control System

The existing LFG control system may be redesigned as part of the FCPMP. Existing collection wells will be evaluated for physical condition, quantity of LFG being extracted and composition of extracted LFG. Based on this evaluation, some collection wells may be abandoned, repaired, or replaced during closure. In addition, the site will be evaluated for LFG migration through the landfill cover utilizing current and historical data.

Groundwater/Surface Water/Vadose Zone Monitoring Systems

The monitoring network at the CSL currently includes eight groundwater monitoring wells which are monitored in accordance with the current Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs). No changes to the groundwater monitoring program are anticipated during and following the installation of the final cover at the site.

Leachate Collection and Removal System/Liner System

There is no Leachate Collection and Removal System (LCRS) at the CSL and one is not proposed as part of the final cover installation. No changes to the leachate monitoring program are anticipated during and following the installation of the final cover at the site.

Site Security

At closure, the existing landfill access road gates will be replaced. An entrance monument sign and additional fencing will be installed along the South Channel.

Structure Removal/Decommissioning of Environmental Control Systems

Site structures not deemed essential and/or for closure construction or post-closure maintenance will be dismantled and removed in accordance with 27 CCR, Section 21137. All structures and foundations demolished as part of the Proposed Project will be properly disposed of at the site or at an appropriate disposal facility. Scale pits and excavations remaining from demolished foundations will be backfilled with inert soils and compacted. The scales and associated mechanisms, office supplies and computer equipment for the scale house will be removed and salvaged. Currently, there are no plans to decommission any of the environmental control systems at the CSL during the closure construction and into the post-closure maintenance period. If deemed necessary, any decommissioning of boreholes, monitoring wells or piezometers will be conducted in accordance with the appropriate regulatory agency requirements (including notifications) and in general accordance with post-closure maintenance plan procedures.

Post-Closure Maintenance

The County will implement a Post-Closure Maintenance Plan at the CSL after closure and will continue to maintain the landfill for a period of not less than 30 years after the final closure of the entire landfill. The County will be responsible for post-closure maintenance and monitoring, which will include the maintenance of the final site face for use consistent with the closure plan, maintenance of the final cover, site security, drainage systems, groundwater monitoring and LFG collection/migration monitoring system, and maintenance of the components of these systems.

If, at the end of the 30-year post-closure maintenance period, it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the LEA, CalRecycle, and the RWQCB that, based upon site geology, design characteristics, and the actual field data collected pursuant to the monitoring provisions, the site poses no threat to public health and safety, or the environment, the post-closure maintenance period may be terminated by the County. Post-closure maintenance will be performed in accordance with the applicable regulatory standards presented in 27 CCR, Division 2, Subdivision 1, Chapter 3, Subchapter 5, Article 2, §21180.

Post-Closure Land Use

During the post-closure maintenance period, the land use shall be maintained in accordance with 27 CCR, Section 21190 to: 1) protect public health and safety and prevent damage to structures, roads, utilities, and gas monitoring and control systems; 2) prevent contact with waste, LFG, and leachate; and 3) prevent LFG explosion.

The FCPMP provides for post-closure land use as non-irrigated open space.

SECTION 4 – ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

- 1. Project Title:** Colton Sanitary Landfill Final Closure/Post-Closure Maintenance Plan
- 2. Lead Agency Name:** County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division

Address: 222 W Hospitality Ln
San Bernardino, CA 92415
- 3. Contact Person:** Patrick Egle, Planner III
- 4. Project Location:** 850 Tropica Rancho Road, Colton, CA

Topographic Quad San Bernardino South 7.5'
(USGS 7.5"):

Topographic Quad Section 25, T1S, R5W;
Coordinates: Section 31, T1S, R4W; Section 30, T1S, R4W, SBBM

Latitude/Longitude 34.04538° / -117.3459°

Site Access: Access is provided via a gated entry from Tropica Rancho Road from La Cadena Drive.
- 5. Project Sponsor:** SWT Engineering

Name and Address: Mr. Michael Cullinane
e-mail: mac@swteng.com
Phone number: (909)-390-1328 office
- 6. General Plan/Zoning Designation:** City of Colton General Plan - Public Facility (PF).

7. Project Description Summary:

The SWMD is pursuing approval of a revised FCPMP for the CSL from applicable regulatory agencies. The existing FCP for the CSL was approved by CalRecycle in February 2016, the SARWQCB in July 2015, and the LEA in March 2015. The plan included an ET final cover system utilizing belt-press soil imported from the MVSL. Belt press soil is a byproduct of the Robertson's Ready Mix Plant operations for aggregate recovery located at the MVSL. The design included a 3-foot thick ET cover placed over a 1-foot interim cover soil to meet the applicable regulatory standards prescribed in 27 CCR, Chapters 3 and 4 and 40 CFR, Subpart F. Due to the lack of available belt-press material, cost of blending, and cost of importation, SWMD is requesting the use of a LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf as an alternative to the approved final cover system.

Details of the Proposed Project are further discussed in Section 3.

8. Environmental/Existing Site Conditions:

The CSL is an inactive Class III landfill owned by the SWMD. The CSL began operation in 1964 and ceased accepting waste on December 31, 2014, and is currently listed as inactive under Solid Waste Facility Permit No. 36-AA-0051.

The CSL is located within the City of Colton approximately 1.5 miles south of Interstate 10 and less than one-mile northwest of Interstate 215 (Figure 1). Access to the facility is by Tropica Rancho Road from La Cadena Drive (Figure 2). The facility occupies approximately 113 acres of land including portions of Section 25, T1S, R5W; Section 31, T1S, R4W; and Section 30, T1S, R4W, of San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. The existing disposal footprint covers an area of approximately 82 acres. The refuse footprint includes lands owned by the County of San Bernardino Department of Transportation and Flood Control. The landfill is bounded by the Santa Ana River to the north and west and the La Loma Hills to the south and east (see Figure 2).

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

Surrounding land uses include industrial and residential as shown in Table 2. Specifically, a small industrial area is located approximately 0.5 miles east of the landfill entrance on Tropica Rancho Road and a mixed residential/industrial area exists about one-mile northeast of the Project Site. The closed CalPortland Cement Plant occurs 0.75 miles north of the Project Site. Two sewage disposal ponds are located about 0.5 miles northeast and one-mile northwest of the site; both ponds are located north of the Santa Ana River. A residential community exists southeast of the Project Site on the opposite side of the La Loma Hills. The nearest residential structure occurs approximately 0.6 miles southeast of the Project Site.

**Table 2
 Surrounding Land Uses and Land Use Designations**

LOCATION	EXISTING LAND USE	City of Colton General Plan Land Use Designation
North	Flood Control Facility (Santa Ana River)	Permanent Open Space
South	Vacant	Residential Estates
East	Vacant	Residential Estates
West	Vacant (San Bernardino County Flood Control District Right of Way)	Permanent Open Space

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required:

The following agencies are responsible for review and approval of the FCPMP:

- CalRecycle - responsible for ensuring the final closure plan elements conform to the requirements of Title 27.
- San Bernardino County Department of Environmental Health - responsible as the LEA to review final closure plans for compliance with Title 27 and the SWFP for the site. The LEA additionally ensures that the revisions to the FCPMP are consistent with local planning and zoning, and ensures that the project has conformed to the requirements of CEQA.

- RWQCB, Santa Ana Region - responsible for review of the FCPMP for consistency with the appropriate sections of Title 23, Chapter 15, CCR pertaining to the protection of water quality and conformance with selected landfill closure construction standards. The RWQCB additionally reviews closure cost estimates with respect to costs associated with the protection of water quality.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation?

On March 10, 2021, the County sent project notification letters to the following California Native American tribes, which had previously submitted general consultation request letters pursuant to 21080.3.1(d) of the Public Resources Code:

- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Twentynine Palms Band of Mission Indians
- Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians

Each recipient was provided a brief description of the Proposed Project a map of its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the tribe has 30 days to request consultation. The 30-day response period concluded on April 10, 2021.

As a result of the initial notification letters, the County of San Bernardino received the following responses:

- Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians: No response or request to consult was received.
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians: An email response was received. The tribe included mitigation and indicated that consultation was not requested at this time.
- Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation: No response or request to consult was received.
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians: No response or request to consult was received.

At the request of San Manuel, Mitigation Measures TCR-1 and TCR-2 (as provided in this Initial Study) shall be incorporated to ensure potential impacts to tribal cultural resources are reduced to the extent feasible.

12. Lead Agency Discretionary Actions:

Solid Waste Facility Permit issued by the LEA and concurred upon by CalRecycle

- San Bernardino County Department of Environmental Health/LEA - responsible as the LEA to review final closure plans for compliance with Title 27 and the SWFP for the site. The LEA additionally ensures that the revisions to the FCPMP are consistent with local planning and zoning and ensures that the project has conformed to the requirements of CEQA.
- Board of Supervisors, certification of environmental documentation

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact requiring mitigation to be reduced to a level that is less than significant as indicated in the checklist on the following pages.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural / Forest Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geology / Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazards / Hazardous Materials
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology / Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Use / Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mineral Resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Noise	<input type="checkbox"/>	Population / Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tribal Cultural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilities / Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory Findings of Significance

LEAD AGENCY DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

	The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
X	Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
	The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
	The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
	Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Signature

6/14/2021

Date

1. AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c) Substantially degrade an existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage points.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				X
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X

(Check if project is located within a view-shed of any Scenic Route listed in the General Plan):

Environmental Setting

The CSL is located in the La Loma Hills adjacent to the Santa Ana River. Landfill activities have removed vegetation from the working area of the facility. The area around the site is primarily uninhabited and no human occupancy structures exist on or adjacent to the site. The CSL occurs in the City of Colton and has a General Plan land use designation of Public Facility (PF). There are no scenic highways within the vicinity of the Proposed Project.

Impact Analysis

a) *Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?*

No Impact. The Project Site and surrounding area does not occur within a scenic vista. The Project Site is situated at the base of the La Loma Hills that range in height from 200 to 400 feet above the site. The CSL is visible from across the Santa Ana River floodplain but does not hinder the view of the La Loma Hills. The La Loma Hills shield the Project Site from residents to the west and south. No new structures are proposed on-site. Implementation of the proposed final closure plan and post-closure activities would not obstruct views of the surrounding area. No scenic routes are near this site. The site contains no visual features of unique quality except the adjacent hills. Implementation of the FCPMP would not obstruct any scenic vista or open view to the public. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- b) *Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?*

No Impact. There are no designated County Scenic Highways within San Bernardino County⁵. The nearest State designated Scenic Highway occurs approximately 32 miles northeast of the Project Site and includes a 15.7-mile portion of State Route 38 (beginning from South Fork Campground to approximately 2.9 miles south of Route 18 at State Lane). In addition, there are no protected trees, rock outcroppings or historic buildings that occur on-site or within a State Scenic Highway that would be impacted by implementation of the Proposed Project. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *Substantially degrade an existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage points.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project will not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and its surroundings. The Proposed Project would be consistent with the existing visual character of the CSL; no portion of the FCPMP would extend beyond the boundaries of the Project Site. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) *Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*

No Impact. Landfill closure construction activities will be conducted during daylight hours. Closure of the landfill and implementation of the Post-closure Maintenance Plan would not create a new source of light. Therefore, no impacts would result. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None Required

Aesthetic Impact Conclusions:

No potentially significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

⁵Obtaining state recognition as an officially designated County Scenic Highway follows the same Scenic Highway program requirements that apply to State Routes.

2. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X

(Check if project is located in the Important Farmlands Overlay):

Environmental Setting

The soil below the CSL has been identified as Tujunga loamy sand, which is not designated a prime agricultural soil by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service's (SCS) Soil Survey of San Bernardino County, Southwestern part, California. No agricultural activities are known to have occurred on-site prior to the landfill activity. The CSL no longer contains native soils and proposed closure

activities and post-closure maintenance at the site would not adversely impact prime or locally important agricultural soil. Native and imported soils have been spread over the waste as cover and compacted.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?*

No Impact. The CSL occurs in the City of Colton and has a General Plan land use designation of Public Facility (PF). The CSL and surrounding area are not identified or designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- b) *Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?*

No Impact. The CSL is not under a Williamson Act Contract as identified in the latest map prepared by the California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection. According to the Williamson Act Maps used by the County Land Use Services Department, there are no active Williamson Act Contracts for the Project Site or adjacent parcels. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?*

No Impact. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned for Timberland Production because the CSL is designated Public Facility and does not support these resources. The CSL does not include forest land or timberland. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) *Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*

No Impact. The CSL does not support forest land. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- e) *Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*

No Impact. Implementation of the FCPMP would not involve changes in the existing environment, which, due to its location or nature, would result in conversion of Farmland to a non-agricultural use because, the CSL is not used or zoned for agricultural purposes. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None Required

Agriculture and Forestry Services Impact Conclusions:

No potentially significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

3. AIR QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			X	
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				X
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL is located in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB). The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has jurisdiction over air quality issues and regulations within the SCAB. To assist local agencies to determine if a project's emissions could pose a significant threat to air quality, the SCAQMD has published its CEQA Air Quality Handbook (CEQA Handbook).

The CSL is no longer receiving solid waste and is currently inactive. Air quality emissions associated with the landfill include landfill gas emissions, and exhaust emissions from use of the dirt access road by vehicles for maintenance and monitoring activities. The access road is paved from La Cadena to a point just beyond the scalehouse. The remaining portion of the access road is an approximately half-mile long unpaved road.

Former operational activities at the CSL included the use of dozers for an average of 11 hours per day and other equipment for portions of a typical day. Approximately one acre of the landfill was active at any one time with the daily active tipping face averaging 100 to 150 feet by 15 feet. Covering of the disposed solid waste with six (6) inches of compacted cover soil was a continuous operation. Cover material was transported to the landfill from an outside borrow source. Daily cover material included approximately 720 cubic yards per day with about 56 trucks per day required to transport material onsite.

Impact Analysis

a) *Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?*

No Impact. The CSL occurs within the SCAB. The SCAQMD has jurisdiction over air quality issues and regulations within the SCAB. The Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the basin establishes a program of rules and regulations administered by SCAQMD to obtain attainment of the State and federal air quality standards. The most recent AQMP (AQMP 2016) was adopted by the SCAQMD on March 3, 2017. The 2016 AQMP incorporates the latest scientific and technological information and planning assumptions, including transportation control measures developed by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) from the 2016 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and updated emission inventory methodologies for various source categories.

The CSL is a permitted use within the zoning district and has been in operation since 1964. Therefore, the emissions associated with the closure have already been accounted for in the AQMP and approval of the Proposed Project would not conflict with the AQMP. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

b) *Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?*

Less Than Significant. The closure activities would require earthmoving, material handling, and material import. These activities were screened for emission generation using SCAQMD “Air Quality Handbook” guidelines, Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks (2021) and SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2021). These tables are used to generate emissions estimates for development projects. The criteria pollutants screened for included: reactive organic gases (ROG), nitrous oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), and particulates (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}). Two of these, ROG and NO_x, are ozone precursors.

The Proposed Project emissions are considered short-term, temporary emissions and were calculated based on the estimated construction parameters listed below. The resulting emission levels as compared to SCAQMD thresholds are shown in Table 3 and Table 4. The following phases for the proposed closure activities were assumed:

Phase I: Material Import (Street Legal Haul Trucks)

- 150 trips per day
- 15-mile haul trip (30 miles round trip)
- 2.5 months or 75 days

Phase II: Typical daily equipment for cover system construction:

- 1 Backhoe
- 2 Scrapers
- 2 Compactors
- 3 Dozers
- 2 Water Truck
- 1 Grader
- 2 Pickup Trucks

Table 3
Phase I: Material Import
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NO _x	CO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Street Legal Haul Trucks	4.6	53.1	22.7	4.5	1.1
Totals (lbs/day)	4.6	53.1	22.7	4.5	1.1
SCAQMD Threshold	75	100	550	150	55
Significant	No	No	No	No	No

Source: Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks (2021)

Table 4
Phase II: Cover System Construction
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NO _x	CO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Backhoe	0.43	2.50	2.80	0.10	0.09
Scraper	2.90	19.62	12.39	0.79	0.72
Compactor	1.14	7.14	6.50	0.46	0.42
Dozer	4.84	35.19	18.39	1.40	1.29
Water Truck	0.85	5.0	5.60	1.94	1.78
Grader	0.69	4.17	4.60	0.20	0.18
Pickup Truck	0.85	5.0	5.60	0.19	0.18
Totals (lbs/day)	11.7	78.6	55.9	5.1	4.7
SCAQMD Threshold	75	100	550	150	55
Significant	No	No	No	No	No

Source: SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2021)

As shown in Table 3 and Table 4, Proposed Project emissions would not exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Therefore, less than significant impact is anticipated.

Compliance with SCAQMD Rules 402 and 403

Although the Proposed Project does not exceed SCAQMD thresholds during construction activities, the County is required to comply with all applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations as the SCAB is in non-attainment status for ozone and suspended particulates (PM₁₀). The Proposed Project shall comply with, Rules 402 Nuisance, and 403 Fugitive Dust, which require the implementation of Best Available Control Measures (BACM) for each fugitive dust source; and the AQMP, which identifies Best Available Control Technologies (BACT) for area sources and point sources, respectively. This would include, but not be limited to the following BACMs and BACTs:

Exhaust emissions from construction vehicles and equipment and fugitive dust generated by equipment traveling over exposed surfaces would increase NO_x and PM₁₀ levels in the area. Although the Proposed Project does not exceed SCAQMD thresholds during construction, SWMD will be required to implement the following conditions as required by SCAQMD:

1. To reduce emissions, all equipment used in earthwork must be tuned and maintained to the manufacturer’s specification to maximize efficient burning of vehicle fuel.
2. The project proponent shall ensure that construction personnel are informed of ride sharing and transit opportunities.
3. The operator shall maintain and effectively utilize and schedule on-site equipment in order to minimize exhaust emissions from truck idling.
4. The operator shall comply with all existing and future CARB and SCAQMD regulations related to diesel-fueled trucks, which may include among others: (1) meeting more stringent emission standards; (2) retrofitting existing engines with particulate traps; (3) use of low sulfur fuel; and (4) use of alternative fuels or equipment.

Implementation of the Proposed Project would not exceed the SCAQMD significance thresholds for construction activities, and no operational emissions, beyond maintenance vehicles traveling to the site for post-closure maintenance, are associated with the closure plan. Although there would be emissions from vehicles and equipment during construction, the emissions would be temporary, of short duration, and below the established thresholds. In addition, Proposed Project emissions of particulate matter would

be reduced by implementing BACMs as outlined in SCAQMD dust control Rules 402 - Nuisance and 403 - Fugitive Dust. The Proposed Project would not generate long-term emissions of criteria pollutants that would exceed thresholds and would therefore not cause a cumulatively considerable increase in criteria pollutants. A less than significant impact is identified, and no mitigation measures are proposed.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

No Impact. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations as there are no sensitive receptors within the vicinity of the landfill. The nearest residential structure occurs approximately 0.6 miles southeast of the Project Site. As shown in Table 3 and Table 4, Proposed Project emissions would be below levels of significance and therefore, the Proposed Project would not cumulatively generate a considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant nor violate any air quality standard. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

No Impact. Potential sources of odor at a landfill include the emission of landfill gas. Existing controls and practices in place at the inactive landfill have minimized odors and to date, have not caused any significant issues. In addition, the natural arid climate plays an important part in reducing the production of landfill gas and odor. Implementation of the FCPMP would not result in any additional odor. After the final cover is constructed, odors are not expected to occur at the landfill. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None Required

Air Quality Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			X	
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?		X		
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X

Check if project is located in the Biological Resources Overlay or Contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database

Environmental Setting

Biological conditions at the CSL are characterized by the existing landfill footprint, which comprises approximately 78 percent of the site. The remaining 22 percent of the site include portions of the surrounding La Loma Hills to the south and east, and the Santa Ana River to the north and west. These areas have not been disturbed and are not proposed to be disturbed as a result of closure activities. The existing footprint consists of a man-made landfill mound elevated above the adjacent riverbed. Final slopes at the landfill have been revegetated and exhibit a variety of native grasses and annuals.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

Less Than Significant. Much of the CSL has been disturbed by past disposal activities. Implementation of closure activities and post-closure maintenance would be within the existing "footprint" and would not disturb any additional areas. No native vegetation is present on-site and minimal animal life is present as a result of past and current activities (i.e., inspections, maintenance). Implementation of closure activities and post-closure maintenance would not create a loss, reduction, or deterioration of habitat or change in the diversity of any species of plant or animal or cause reduction in any unique, rare, threatened or endangered species of plant or animal. Therefore, no adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

- b) *Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

No Impact. The Santa Ana River, located north and west of the CSL, is identified in Figure 5.4-1 Vegetation Communities in the County of the Countywide Plan EIR⁶ as containing riparian habitat. The landfill does not include any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Proposed closure activities and post-closure maintenance at the CSL would not include any activity in the riverbed. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?*

No Impact. No wetlands are present at the CSL. Implementation of the Proposed Project including closure activities and post-closure maintenance would not disturb any State or federally protected wetlands as protected under CEQA, Section 1600 of the California Fish and Wildlife Code, or as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) *Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?*

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites, because there are no such corridors or nursery sites at the CSL. However, trees on adjacent properties have the potential provide nesting habitat. Therefore, possible significant adverse impacts have been identified or are anticipated and the following mitigation measures shall be implemented:

BIO-1: To avoid impacts to any nesting migratory birds, Project activities will be conducted outside of bird breeding season (February 1 through August 31). If start of construction must occur between February 1 and August 31, then a qualified biologist shall conduct a breeding bird surveys at the appropriate time of day/night during the appropriate weather conditions, no more than three days prior to the start of construction to

⁶ http://countywideplan.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Ch_05-04-BIO.pdf, accessed 2/22/21

determine if nesting is occurring. Preconstruction surveys shall focus on direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations, nesting stages, and nest behavior. Surveys shall evaluate all suitable areas including trees, shrubs, bare ground, burrows, cavities, and structures. The duration of the survey shall be dependent upon the size of the project site, density, and complexity of the habitat; and shall be sufficient to ensure complete and accurate data is collected.

BIO-2: If active occupied nests are found, they shall not be disturbed unless the qualified biologist verifies through non-invasive methods that either (a) the adult birds have not begun egg-laying and incubation, or (b) the juveniles from the occupied nests are capable of independent survival and will not be impacted by the removal of the nest. If the biologist is not able to verify one of the above conditions, then no disturbance shall occur within a distance specified by the qualified biologist for each nest or nesting site. The qualified biologist will determine the appropriate distance in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The size and location of buffer zones shall be based on nesting bird species, species behavior, nesting stage, species sensitivity to disturbance, and the intensity and duration of the disturbance activity.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

No Impact. There are no existing trees or other biological resources on-site that would be impacted by the Proposed Project. Therefore, no impacts related to local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance are identified. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No Impact. The County of San Bernardino General Plan does not identify the Project Site, nor the vicinity to be within a Habitat Conservation Plan. The Proposed Project will not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state Habitat Conservation Plan since there is no adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan in the Project area or local region. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures

None Required

Biological Resources Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?		X		
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?		X		
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		X		

(Check if project is located in the Cultural overlays or cite results of cultural resource review)

Environmental Setting

The CSL is an inactive landfill and began accepting solid waste in 1964 and occurs in the La Loma Hills adjacent to the Santa Ana River. Landfill activities have removed vegetation from the working area of the facility. Former solid waste activities have removed native soils within the footprint of the landfill.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?*
- b) *Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?*

Less Than Significant with Mitigation. The CSL consists of a landfill and support facilities (i.e., groundwater monitoring wells, etc.) and is not occupied by any structures, buildings, or objects of cultural value. No history of prior archaeological resources has been discovered on-site. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not disturb areas of the site that have not already been disturbed. However, at the request of San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, implementation of the following mitigation measures would ensure potential impacts to cultural resources are reduced to the extent feasible:

CUL-1: In the event that cultural resources are discovered during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 60-foot buffer) shall cease and a qualified archaeologist meeting Secretary of Interior standards shall be hired to assess the find. Work on the other portions of the project outside of the buffered area may continue during this assessment period. Additionally, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Cultural Resources Department (SMBMI) shall be contacted, as detailed within TCR-1, regarding any pre-contact and/or historic-era finds and be provided information after the archaeologist makes his/her initial assessment of the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment.

CUL-2: If significant pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, the archaeologist shall develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan, the drafts of which shall be provided to SMBMI for review and comment, as detailed within TCR-1. The archaeologist shall monitor the remainder of the project and implement the Plan accordingly.

c) *Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?*

Less Than Significant with Mitigation. Previous solid waste activities at the CSL have not uncovered any human remains. Closure activities at the CSL, including the use of a LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf, would not disturb areas of the site that have not already been disturbed. In accordance with State law, should human remains and/or cremations be encountered during any earthmoving activities, all work shall stop immediately in the area in which the find(s) are present. The County of San Bernardino and the Project Proponent shall be called and informed of the discovery. The Coroner will determine if the bones are historic/archaeological or a modern legal case. The Coroner will immediately contact the Native American Heritage Commission in the event that remains are determined to be human and of Native American origin, in accordance with California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98.

At the request of San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the following mitigation measure shall be implemented to ensure potential impacts to cultural resources are reduced to the extent feasible:

CUL-3: If human remains or funerary objects are encountered during any activities associated with the project, work in the immediate vicinity (within a 100-foot buffer of the find) shall cease and the County Coroner shall be contacted pursuant to State Health and Safety Code §7050.5 and that code enforced for the duration of the project.

Cultural Resources Impact Conclusions:

Implementation of Mitigation Measures CUL-1, CUL-2 and CUL-3 would ensure that potential impacts to cultural resources are reduced to the extent feasible.

6. ENERGY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			X	
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?				X

Environmental Setting

Senate Bill 350

Senate Bill (SB) 350 (de Leon) was signed into law in October 2015. SB 350 establishes new clean energy, clean air and greenhouse gas reduction goals for 2030. SB 350 also establishes tiered increases to the Renewable Portfolio Standard: 40 percent by 2024, 45 percent by 2027, and 50 percent by 2030.

Senate Bill 100

Senate Bill 100 (SB 100) was signed into law September 2018 and increased the required Renewable Portfolio Standards. SB 100 requires the total kilowatt-hours of energy sold by electricity retailers to their end-use customers must consist of at least 50 percent renewable resources by 2026, 60 percent renewable resources by 2030, and 100 percent renewable resources by 2045. SB 100 also includes a State policy that eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources supply 100 percent of all retail sales of electricity to California end-use customers and 100 percent of electricity procured to serve all State agencies by December 31, 2045. Under the bill, the State cannot increase carbon emissions elsewhere in the western grid or allow resource shuffling to achieve the 100 percent carbon-free electricity target.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during project construction or operation?*

Less Than Significant. California is one of the lowest per capita energy users in the United States, ranked 48th in the nation, due to its energy efficiency programs and mild climate. California consumed 292,039 gigawatt-hours of electricity and 2,110,829 million cubic feet of natural gas in 2017. In addition, Californians consume approximately 18.5 billion gallons of motor vehicle fuels per year⁷. The single largest end-use sector for energy consumption in California is transportation (39.8 percent), followed by industry (23.7 percent), commercial (18.9 percent), and residential (17.7 percent)⁸.

Most of California's electricity is generated in-state with approximately 30 percent imported from the Northwest and Southwest in 2017. In addition, approximately 30 percent of California's electricity supply comes from renewable energy sources such as wind, solar photovoltaic, geothermal, and biomass (CEC 2018). Adopted on September 10, 2018, SB 100 accelerates the State's Renewables Portfolio Standards Program by requiring electricity providers to increase procurement from eligible renewable energy resources to 33 percent of total retail sales by 2020, 60 percent by 2030, and 100 percent by 2045.

⁷ Federal Highway Administration 2019

⁸ United States Energy Information Administration 2018

To reduce statewide vehicle emissions, California requires that all motorists use California Reformulated Gasoline, which is sourced almost exclusively from in-state refineries. Gasoline is the most used transportation fuel in California with 15.3 billion gallons sold in 2019 and is used by light-duty cars, pickup trucks, and sport utility vehicles (California Department of Tax and Fee Administration 2018). Diesel is the second most used fuel in California with 3.14 billion gallons sold in 2019 and is used primarily by heavy duty-trucks, delivery vehicles, buses, trains, ships, boats and barges, farm equipment, and heavy-duty construction and military vehicles (CEC 2020). Both gasoline and diesel are primarily petroleum-based, and their consumption releases greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including CO₂ and NO_x. The transportation sector is the single largest source of GHG emissions in California, accounting for 40 percent of all inventoried emissions in 2018 (California Air Resources Board [CARB] 2020).

Energy use would be primarily fuel consumption to operate heavy equipment and trucks during import of material and closure activities. The expected energy consumption at maximum production from equipment, generators, and trucks, including truck trips to import material approximately 30 miles (roundtrip), will be approximately 99,029 gallons of diesel fuel per year and 1,463 gallons of gas. No electricity or natural gas consumption is used onsite or is proposed.

In comparison, San Bernardino County retail sales of diesel fuel was approximately 159 million gallons in 2019 with a state-wide total of taxable diesel fuel usage of over 3 billion gallons in 2019 (California Energy Commission 2019 Annual Report (CEC-A15; September 2020). The CEC estimates that retail sales account for about 47.2% of the total diesel sales; 52.8% is non-retail sales. Therefore, total diesel sales in San Bernardino County are estimated to be around 337 million gallons/year and 6.6 billion gallons/year statewide.

Energy use would be typical of similar-sized short-term construction-type projects in the region. In the interest of cost efficiency, post-closure maintenance at the CSL is not anticipated to utilize fuel in a manner that would be considered wasteful or unnecessary. In addition, all off-road and on-road equipment and trucks will meet fleet averaging requirements and compliance with SCAQMD rules and CARB's Off-Road Diesel Vehicle regulations. Therefore, the Proposed Project impacts would not result in a potential impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, and less than significant energy impacts would occur.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

No Impact. The Proposed Project is the installation of the final cover system and post-closure maintenance at the CSL. The closure of the landfill would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation as adopted by an agency to reduce energy efficiency or renewable energy, such as, AB 32, and SB 32. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None Required

Energy Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury death involving?				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?				X
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
iv. Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onsite or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?		X		
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				X
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X

(Check if project is located in the Geologic Hazards or Paleontologic Resources Overlay District):

Environmental Setting

The southwestern portion of San Bernardino County is subject to a number of active or potentially active fault zones. The CSL is located within the Bunker Hill-San Timoteo basin, which includes the cities of Rialto, Colton, Loma Linda, Redlands, and San Bernardino. These areas are within the rift between the active San Andreas Fault and the San Jacinto Fault. Both fault zones trend northwest and are roughly one-mile wide through the San Bernardino area. The San Jacinto fault zone, which is approximately one-mile north of the CSL, is the closest active fault to the site and is classified as being from the Holocene or late Quaternary period. Geologic evidence for this fault indicates that it has been active for millions of years, and has an estimated moment magnitude 7.5 earthquake, which would subject the site to ground acceleration over 0.5g (Division of Mines and Geology, 1994).

The Rialto-Colton fault, a late Quaternary fault, lies just north of the CSL approximately one-half mile. This fault also acts as a groundwater barrier and defines the west side of the Rialto sub-basin, which lies within the northwest trending San Jacinto fault zone.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:*
- i. *Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.*
 - ii. *Strong seismic ground shaking?*
 - iii. *Seismic related ground failure, including liquefaction?*
 - iv. *Landslides?*
- i. **No Impact** – The CSL occurs in a seismically portion of southern California with numerous fault systems in the region. However, the CSL is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Special Studies area. According to San Bernardino County Hazards Map FH30C⁹, the nearest earthquake fault (San Jacinto Fault Zone) occurs approximately one-mile north of the CSL. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
 - ii. **No Impact** –The Project Site occurs in a highly seismic region of southern California within the influence of several fault systems that are considered to be active or potentially active. Proposed closure activities and post-closure maintenance would not expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, ground failure or landslides, because the Proposed Project does not include the construction of any habitable structures which could fail during a seismic event. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
 - iii. **No Impact** – According to the County of San Bernardino Hazards Map FH30C¹⁰, the Project Site is not located within an area susceptible to liquefaction. The nearest potential for liquefaction hazards occurs 2.5 miles northwest of the CSL and extends beyond the Santa Ana River floodplain where groundwater is shallow and loose sandy soils occur. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
 - iv. **No Impact** – According to the County of San Bernardino Hazards Map FH30C¹¹, the Project Site is not located within an area susceptible to landslides. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
- b) *Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?*

Less Than Significant. In accordance with the requirements of 27 CCR, Sections 21150, 20365 and 21090(a)(3) slope protection and erosion control features were included in the final closure design. The primary function of the surface water drainage control system is to divert and convey stormwater flows in a controlled manner to minimize erosion and potential infiltration of surface water into the refuse prism. The final surface or deck area of the landfill will be sloped to prevent ponding and promote lateral runoff of stormwater, which falls directly on the landfill. As stated in the FCPMP, use of a LLDPE geomembrane with Closure Turf would result in no soil loss and would not require erosion control. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

⁹ http://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/lus/GeoHazMaps/FH30C_20100309.pdf, accessed February 2021

¹⁰ http://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/lus/GeoHazMaps/FH30C_20100309.pdf, accessed February 2021

¹¹ http://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/lus/GeoHazMaps/FH30C_20100309.pdf, accessed February 2021

- c) *Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onsite or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?*

Less Than Significant with Mitigation. According to County Hazards Map FH30C, the Project Site is not located within an area susceptible to landslides or liquefaction. A Seismic Hazard and Slope Stability Analysis, dated February 24, 2021, was prepared for the Proposed Project by Geo-Logic Associates (GLA). A copy of the report is available for review at the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works offices located at 825 E 3rd St, San Bernardino, Room 123, and on their website at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/dpw/Home.aspx>. Findings of the report are summarized herein.

In accordance with Title 27, GLA performed waste mass and final cover static slope stability and seismic deformation analyses for the Proposed Project. Potential liquefaction triggering and liquefaction seismic deformation analyses for the final waste mass configuration were previously evaluated and found to be in compliance with Title 27 (GLA, 2006; GLA, 2007). As concluded in the report, results of static and seismic stability evaluations indicate that the Title 27- and CBC 2019-mandated stability criteria are met. To ensure specific design features and slope stability are met, the following mitigation measure shall be required:

GEO-1: During construction of the final cover system, the Project Proponent shall implement the following recommendations as provided in the February 2021 Seismic Hazard and Slope Stability Analysis prepared by Geo-Logic Associates.

- **Soils used to construct engineered fills for the Proposed Project shall be free of asbestos, organic matter, refuse, hazardous materials, and other deleterious substances.**
- **Foundation fill soils should be placed in horizontal lifts of no greater than 12-inches when uncompacted. These soils shall be moisture conditioned as required and compacted in horizontal lifts.**
- **The minimum density of compacted fill should be 90% of the maximum dry density as established by the Modified Proctor Compaction Test (ASTM D1557)**
- **The maximum variance from the optimum moisture content, as established by the Modified Proctor Compaction Test (ASTM D1557), should not exceed plus or minus 2%.**
- **The top of the 3-foot-high gabion added to raise the existing South Channel gabion wall should be secured by anchoring. This anchoring may be achieved by a PVC-coated gabion wire-mesh extended horizontally as a tieback by a minimum of 8 feet (measured from the back side of gabion).**
- **Where either a new 1-foot-thick gabion is placed atop a new 3-foot-high gabion or a new 3-foot-high gabion is placed atop an existing gabion, the former shall be secured to the latter with galvanized wire ties or other means approved by the CQA engineer.**
- **A 12-oz non-woven geotextile should be placed beneath and behind the added gabions.**

Implementation of the above mitigation measure would ensure that potential impacts from the Proposed Project would be reduced to the extent feasible.

d) *Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?*

No Impact. Expansive (or shrink-swell) behavior is attributable to the water-holding capacity of clay minerals and can adversely affect the structural integrity of soils. The General Plan does not identify soil conditions in the area that would lead to expansive behavior nor has there been any reported cases in the surrounding area. The CSL and surrounding area is underlain by unconsolidated Quaternary (older) alluvial sediments deposited by the Santa Ana River. Unstable or expansive soils would not pose a significant threat with implementation of the FCP. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

e) *Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project does not include the use of septic tanks. Therefore, no impacts related to soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

f) *Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?*

No Impact. The CSL is underlain by unconsolidated Quaternary (older) alluvial sediments deposited by the Santa Ana River. Soils underlying the site, consist of water-bearing, granular, unconsolidated, coarse-grained sands and gravels. The upper 15 feet of material consists predominantly of sand, while the lower part (15 to 35 feet) consist of primarily gravel. The sands range from fine to coarse grained and from well to poorly sorted, suggesting a variety of depositional settings. Based on these alluvial sediments deposited from the Santa Ana River and distant areas, there is a low potential of paleontological resources. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not impact paleontological resources. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Geology and Soils Impact Conclusions:

Implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would ensure potential impacts to unstable soils would be reduced to the extent feasible.

8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X	
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			X	

Background

According to CEQA Guidelines section 15064.4, when making a determination of the significance of greenhouse gas emissions, the “lead agency shall have discretion to determine, in the context of a particular project, whether to (1) quantify greenhouse gas emissions resulting from a project and/or (2) rely on a qualitative analysis or performance based standards.” Moreover, CEQA Guidelines section 15064.7(c) provides that “a lead agency may consider thresholds of significance previously adopted or recommended by other public agencies or recommended by experts” on the condition that “the decision of the lead agency to adopt such thresholds is supported by substantial evidence.”

In September 2011, the County adopted a Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Reduction Plan (September 2011) (GHG Plan). The GHG Plan presents a comprehensive set of actions to reduce the County’s internal and external GHG emissions to 15% below current levels (2007 levels) by 2020, consistent with the AB 32 Scoping Plan. GHG emissions impacts are assessed through the GHG Development Review Process (DRP) by applying appropriate reduction requirements as part of the discretionary approval of new development projects. Through its development review process, the County will implement CEQA requiring new development projects to quantify project GHG emissions and adopt feasible mitigation to reduce project emissions below a level of significance. A review standard of 3,000 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (MTCO_{2e}) per year is used to identify projects that require the use of Screening Tables or a project-specific technical analysis to quantify and mitigate project emissions.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?*
- b) *Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?*

Less Than Significant. Per CEQA guidelines, new project emissions are treated as standard emissions, and air quality impacts are evaluated for significance on an air basin or even at a neighborhood level. Greenhouse gas emissions are treated differently, in that the perspective is global, not local. Therefore, emissions for certain types of projects might not necessarily be considered as new emissions if the project is primarily population driven. Many gases make up the group of pollutants that are believed to contribute to global climate change. However, three gases are currently evaluated carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O). SCAQMD provides guidance methods and/or Emission Factors.

A threshold of 3,000 MTCO_{2e} per year has been adopted by the County as potentially significant to global warming. Utilizing the SCAQMD’s Off-Road Mobile Source Fleet Average Emission Factors 2021

(Construction Emissions) and Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Truck 2021, the Proposed Project would generate approximately 1,293.2 MTCO₂e during the construction Phase I-Material Import and approximately 2,783.2 MTCO₂e during construction Phase II-Cover System Construction; see Tables 5 and 6. No operational emissions are anticipated when the closure plan has been completed.

Table 5
Greenhouse Gas Emissions
“Phase I: Material Import”
(Pounds Per Day)

Equipment	CO ₂	CH ₄	NOx
Street Legal Haul Trucks	18,967	0.00	0.00
Total lbs. per day	18,967		
MTCO₂e per Year	1,293.2		
County Screening Threshold (MTCO ₂ e)	3,000		
Significant	No		

Source: Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks (2021)

Table 6
Greenhouse Gas Emissions
“Phase II: Cover System Construction”
(Pounds Per Day)

Equipment	CO ₂	CH ₄	NOx
Backhoe	976	0.04	0.00
Scraper	4,192	0.26	0.00
Compactor	1,102	0.10	0.00
Dozer	5,736	0.43	0.00
Water Truck	1,952	0.08	0.00
Grader	1,064	0.06	0.00
Pickup Truck	1,952	0.08	0.00
Total lbs. per day	16,975.5		
MTCO₂e per Year	2,783.2		
County Screening Threshold (MTCO ₂ e)	3,000		
Significant	No		

Emission Sources: SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emission Factors (Scenario Year 2021)

Note: Assumes all pieces operating 8 hours a day for 180 working days/year (worst case assumption)

*CH₄ and NOx have a Global Warming Potential of 28 and 265, respectively as provided by IPCC's 2013

As demonstrated in Table 5 and Table 6, Proposed Project construction would not exceed the County's GHG screening threshold. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment. No significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Required Conditions

Proposed Project emissions would be less than significant; however, the applicant will be required to implement GHG reduction performance standards. The GHG reducing performance standards were developed by the County to improve the energy efficiency, water conservation, vehicle trip reduction potential, and other GHG reducing impacts from all new development approved within the unincorporated portions of San Bernardino County. As such, the following Performance Standards establish the minimum level of compliance that development must meet to assist in meeting the 2020 GHG reduction target identified in the in the County GHG Emissions Reduction Plan. These Performance Standards apply to

all projects, including those that emit less than 3,000 MTCO₂e per year, and will be included as Conditions of Approval for development projects.

The following are the Performance Standards that are applicable to the Proposed Project:

Construction contractors shall do the following:

- 1. Select construction equipment based on low GHG emissions factors and high-energy efficiency.*
- 2. All construction equipment engines shall be properly tuned and maintained in accordance with the manufacturers specifications prior to arriving on site and throughout construction duration.*
- 3. All construction equipment (including electric generators) shall be shut off by work crews when not in use and shall not idle for more than 5 minutes.*

The Proposed Project does not exceed applicable SCAQMD regional thresholds during construction. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None required

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

9. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL is currently listed by CalRecycle as inactive. During its operation from 1964 to December 31, 2014, the landfill accepted residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, construction, demolition and other non-hazardous inert wastes. Disposal of hazardous, explosive, or toxic substances was not permitted at the landfill. A load-checking program was in place that screened wastes received for disposal. If illegal substances were found within a loaded vehicle, the load was refused.

In its inactive phase and during the post-closure phase, a potential hazard associated with a solid waste landfill is exposure to landfill gas (LFG). LFG is primarily composed of carbon dioxide and methane and can be explosive at concentrations of between five percent and fifteen percent. Pursuant to Section 20919.5, Title 27 CCR, a quarterly methane-monitoring program was implemented at the CSL. LFG monitoring probes and on-site structures are monitored in accordance with regulatory requirements. Currently, LFG is monitored quarterly, and results of probe and on-site structure monitoring are reported to the LEA and SCAQMD. Each report includes methane concentrations, documentation of sampling conditions, instrumentation utilized, and a brief description of methods. The monitoring reports include pressures measured in the LFG probes and barometric pressure.

Perimeter probe monitoring results for the fourth quarter of 2020 revealed methane gas concentrations to be well below Rule 1150.1, and state standards, at the CSL. It is anticipated that the monitoring

program will continue for a period of 30 years after the final closure of the landfill or until landfill gas production ceases.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?*

No Impact. Closure activities and post-closure maintenance would not require the use of hazardous materials and would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- b) *Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment, because closure activities would not involve the use of hazardous materials. Closure and post-closure maintenance activities are not considered hazardous and would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of a school. The nearest school is the Woodrow Wilson Elementary School located at 750 South 8th Street in Colton, approximately 5.5 miles northeast of the CSL. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) *Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?*

No Impact. According to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor (accessed March 1, 2021), the CSL does not occur on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5¹². The CSL has never operated as a hazardous waste disposal facility. Implementation of the FCP and related closure activities would not be a significant hazard to the public or the environment as no hazardous materials would be transported, stored or used as part of closure activities. Closure activities would require construction equipment that uses petroleum-based fuels. Use of this equipment would be short-term and would not require storage of hazardous materials at the Project Site. No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

¹² <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=850+Tropica+Rancho+Road%2C+Colton%2C+CA+> (accessed March 1, 2021).

- e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?*

No Impact. The CSL is not located within an airport land use plan and is not within two miles of a public airport or private airport strip. The Proposed Project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- f) *Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

No Impact. The CSL is located on Tropica Rancho Road. Since closure of the landfill would not block any main thoroughfares within the City, closure activities would not create any significant impacts to the City's emergency response plan and emergency evacuation plan. No proposed changes to the existing site access or roadways would result. In addition, an Emergency Response Plan has been prepared as part of the FCP. The plan outlines potential situations requiring emergency responses that may occur at the landfill during closure and the post-closure maintenance period and identifies initial actions to be taken. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- g) *Expose people or structure, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?*

No Impact. The CSL is located in the La Loma Hills adjacent to the Santa Ana River. Landfill activities have removed vegetation from the working area of the facility. The area around the site is primarily uninhabited and no human occupancy structures exist on or adjacent to the site. An Emergency Response Plan has been prepared as part of the FCPMP. The plan outlines potential situations requiring emergency responses that may occur at the landfill during the post-closure maintenance period and identifies the initial action to be taken. Fire could potentially commence as either a landfill fire or a buffer zone fire. The Emergency Response Plan outlines the potential situations requiring emergency responses that may occur at the landfill during the post-closure maintenance period. Initial actions to be taken include:

- Contact the County of San Bernardino Fire Department, even if on-site capabilities are deemed adequate to extinguish fires or control future explosions. On-site closure construction personnel will be instructed to follow the Fire Department's directions and give their full cooperation.
- In the event of an off-site fire near the landfill, such as a brush fire, the operator will lend its personnel and equipment, if available, to the Fire Department to fight the fire.

Implementation of the Emergency Response Plan procedures would adequately address any potential impacts during closure construction. Implementation of the FCPMP and related closure activities would not occur adjacent to wildlands or near the wildlands/urban interface, and will not expose people, structures or infrastructure to the risk of wildland fires. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measure:

None required

Hazards and Hazardous Materials Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?			X	
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would?			X	
i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on – or off-site;			X	
ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on – or off-site;			X	
iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of the existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional resources of polluted runoff; or			X	
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?			X	

Environmental Setting

The CSL is located within the Rialto-Colton groundwater basin. Groundwater in the basin is recharged by streams and creeks that carry surface water from the nearby highlands to the Santa Ana River and its tributaries. Groundwater in the area occurs within unconsolidated alluvial sediments and to a lesser degree within fractured batholithic bedrock units. The depth to groundwater at the site has been estimated to be between 12 and 33 feet. Studies done as part of the Report of Waste Discharge for the RWQCB showed that there is a likelihood that landfill fluids were entering and mixing with and locally degrading water quality immediately adjacent to the landfill property. A groundwater monitoring program was implemented to determine the effect on groundwater. The monitoring network at the CSL currently includes eight groundwater monitoring wells and one piezometer. Currently, quarterly water level sampling, measurement, and analysis are conducted.

The CSL is unlined and does not have a leachate collection and removal system (LCRS). In order to prevent leachate from infiltrating into the upper basin of the Santa Ana River, a slurry trench wall was constructed in 1995 on the northwest portion of the site, adjacent to the Santa Ana River. The wall is two feet wide and approximately 30-40 feet deep, depending on existing grade at the surface. The slurry wall is approximately 13-16 feet below the groundwater level and runs the entire length of the landfill (approximately 2,200 feet) adjacent to the Santa Ana River. The slurry trench wall was constructed as part of the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) program required under WDRs to mitigate off-site migration of leachate. To evaluate the effectiveness of the slurry wall, nested, dual-depth monitoring wells were constructed downgradient of the slurry wall along the eastern bank of the Santa Ana River

approximately 1,500 feet south-southwest of the landfill. Recent data indicates that no volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have been detected in the CAP monitoring wells.

The surface water monitoring is also conducted and consists of two monitoring points (CL-A and CL-B) located in the Santa Ana River, upstream and downstream of the CSL. The upgradient monitoring point, CL-A, is located northeast of the landfill and the downgradient point CL-B is located southwest of the landfill. The monitoring stations are sampled on a quarterly sampling basis. During the July 2020 sampling event, both monitoring points were dry.

The CSL is not served by a domestic water company. In the past, the City of Colton delivered water for dust control.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?*

Less Than Significant. In February 2021, a Hydrology and Hydraulics Study was prepared by SWT Engineering for the Proposed Project. A copy of the report is available for review at the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works offices located at 825 E 3rd St, San Bernardino, CA 92415, Room 123, and on their website at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/dpw/Home.aspx>. Findings of the report are summarized herein.

Input data required for hydrologic analysis was compiled for the site as well as the latest topography (November 2019) of the landfill area was obtained from the County of San Bernardino. Additional data necessary for hydrologic modeling included the proposed storm drain network, sediment/storage basin configuration, aerial images, and precipitation data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Before creating the hydrology model, the watershed area, land use, flow path lengths and type, and average slope were identified and used as input data for the hydrology modeling.

The study was performed for the proposed final closure turf conditions based on the aerial topo and the final closure drainage plan and was conducted for a 100-year, 24-hour storm event. Flow path length, type, and slope were obtained from the Proposed Project plans. The hydrology study included review of seven tributary areas to determine the peak discharge value for a 100-year, 24-hour storm event. Hydraulic calculations were performed for the critical drainage structures experiencing the peak discharge to ensure each had sufficient capacity with freeboard. Below is a summary of each tributary area:

- **Tributary Area A:** This area includes approximately 18.33 acres and has an approximate runoff of 39.37 cfs draining to nodal point 1.25. This discharge area is the anticipated maximum flow that will be conveyed by any of the proposed LLDPE/Closure Turf downdrain structures during a 100-year, 24-hour storm event and was used to evaluate the capacity of the drainage structure. The 39.37 cfs discharge rate is approximately 9.4% of the approximate 419.49 cfs maximum capacity of the proposed downdrain structures and allows for approximately 10.8 inches of freeboard. The five outfalls into the Santa Ana River are all 36-inch pipes that have a maximum capacity of approximately 175.0 cfs, which is greater than the peak run-off for tributary Area A.
- **Tributary Area B:** This area includes approximately 9.07 acres and has an approximate runoff of 29.13 cfs draining to nodal point 2.10, which is less than the tributary Area A hydraulic calculation, therefore the proposed downdrain structure would have adequate capacity to convey the run-off of Area B.

- Tributary Area C: This area includes approximately 8.67 acres and has an approximate runoff of 27.49 cfs draining to nodal point 3.10, which is less than the tributary Area A hydraulic calculation, therefore the proposed downdrain structure would have adequate capacity to convey the runoff of Area C.
- Tributary Area D: This area includes approximately 27.41 acres and has an approximate runoff of 74.62 cfs draining to nodal point 4.25. This discharge is the anticipated maximum flow that will be conveyed by the proposed Northeast Drainage Road during a 100-year, 24-hour storm event and was used to evaluate the capacity of the proposed drainage structure. The 74.62 cfs discharge rate is approximately 73.2% of the approximate 101.98 cfs maximum capacity of the Northeast Drainage Road and allows for approximately 2.1 inches of freeboard.
- Tributary Area E: This area includes approximately 14.65 acres and has an approximate runoff of 46.07 cfs draining to nodal point 5.15. This discharge is the approximate maximum flow that will be conveyed by the proposed Concrete Trapezoidal Channel during a 100-year, 24-hour storm event and was used to evaluate the capacity of this drainage structure. The 46.07 cfs discharge rate is approximately 26.6% of the approximate 173.11 cfs maximum capacity of the Concrete Trapezoidal Channel and allows for 12.0 inches of freeboard. The 1996 Emcon Hydrology and Hydraulics Studies used for the design of the South Channel indicate a discharge of 27.9 cfs to the same nodal point, therefore adding approximately 18.2 cfs (or 4.7%) of additional flow into the South Channel. This additional flow will have a negligible impact on the existing South Channel 4-foot freeboard.
- Tributary Area F: This area (composed of two subareas; F1 and F2) includes approximately 24.24 acres and has an approximate runoff of 54.70 cfs draining to nodal point 6.15. Subarea F1 discharges at 24.27 cfs at nodal point 6.05. The 1996 Emcon Hydrology and Hydraulics studies used for the design of the South Channel indicates a discharge of 24.2 cfs to the same nodal point. The discharge difference at this nodal point is considered negligible to the overall freeboard of the South Channel. Subarea F2 discharges approximately 29.83 cfs to nodal point 6.10. The 1996 Emcon Hydrology and Hydraulics Studies used for the design of the South Channel indicate a discharge of 27.5 cfs to the same nodal point. The discharge difference at this nodal point is also considered negligible to the overall freeboard of the South Channel.
- Tributary Area G: This area includes approximately 9.72 acres and has an approximate runoff of 31.09 cfs draining to nodal point 7.10, which is less than the tributary Area A hydraulic calculation, therefore the LLDPE/CT downdrain structure has adequate capacity to convey the run-off of Area G.

As concluded in the Hydrology Study, the CSL would meet the demand for a 100-Year, 24-Hour storm event for all current and designed closure drainage features. Existing drainage structures in combination with the proposed final drainage system would reduce impacts from flooding or erosion in the vicinity of the site. The Project Proponent would continue to adhere to requirements set forth in Waste Discharge Requirement 94-34 issued by the RWQCB – Santa Ana Region during closure activities and the post-closure maintenance period. Proposed closure activities will not impact existing waste discharge requirements issued for the site. No significant amounts of runoff would occur that would result in degradation of surface water or groundwater quality. No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

b) *Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?*

No Impact. The CSL does not pump water from the underlying aquifer. Water would be delivered to the CSL for dust control. Upon completion of closure activities, water delivered to the site would decrease as

dust suppression requirements would be limited to days of scheduled maintenance. Therefore, no impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would?*
- i. *Result in substantial erosion or siltation on – or off-site;*
 - ii. *Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or off-site;*
 - iii. *Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of the existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional resources of polluted runoff;*

Less Than Significant. The CSL is located between the La Loma Hills and the Santa Ana River. An existing drainage control system routes flow from the site (runoff) and flows from off site (run-on) to the Santa Ana River. Most of the run-on is routed either directly, or via perimeter ditches, to a reinforced natural channel along the south edge of the landfill, referred to as the South Channel. This channel flows west to the Santa Ana River. A trapezoidal channel carries run-on from the slopes to the east of the landfill to a culvert buried between the main landfill and northeast mound that also flows to the Santa Ana River. Currently, storm runoff is diverted from the landfill by bench drains and downdrains to either the South Channel or storm drain outlet structures along the north edge of the landfill, which drain into the Santa Ana River.

A partial final closure of the north and east face occurred between 1998 and 1999. The embankment protection road was raised approximately 6-feet when final cover was placed over the top of the slurry wall. Perimeter road drainage elements (curbs, inlets, and paved cross slopes) enhanced the closure of this area such that the area was incorporated into the Santa Ana River Trail System. During the partial final closure and trail construction, downdrain transitions were constructed. These transitions will be utilized for the downdrain transitions during the final closure construction at the CSL.

The proposed final drainage system was designed in accordance with 27 CCR, Section 20365 requirements and will direct drainage from the slopes, sheet flow between bench ditches, and concentrated flow in downdrains, channels and culvert structures. The flow will be directed to the drainage structures and off the landfill to the South Channel or through culverts directly to the Santa Ana River. As discussed in response “a” above, the hydrology study was conducted for a 100-year, 24-hour storm event. As concluded in the report, the CSL would meet the demand for a 100-Year, 24-Hour storm event for all current and designed closure drainage features. Existing drainage structures in combination with the proposed final drainage system would reduce impacts from flooding or erosion in the vicinity of the site. Implementation of the FCPMP would not create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. No significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) *In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?*

Less Than Significant. According to County Hazards Map FH30B¹³, the CSL occurs within Zone X (an area designated as occurring within the 500-year flood plain). Implementation of the FCPMP would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding as the Proposed Project involves the final closure of the landfill and would decrease use of the site. The CSL is not subject to inundation by seiche or mudflow hazards. Due to the Inland distance from the Pacific Ocean and any

¹³ http://www.sbcounty.gov/uploads/lus/hazmaps/fh30b_20100309.pdf

other significant body of water, impacts from seiche and tsunami are not anticipated. No significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None

Hydrology and Water Quality Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

11. LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL is an inactive Class III landfill owned by the County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division. The landfill began operations in 1964 and ceased receiving solid waste on December 31, 2014.

According to the City of Colton’s General Plan, the Project Site is designated Public Facility (PF). The area adjacent to the site is vacant. The Santa Ana River is located north and west of the site and is designated Floodway in the City of Colton’s General Plan. Areas within the La Loma Hills to the east and south are designated Residential Estates. The nearest residential structure occurs approximately 0.6 miles southeast of the Project Site.

Impact Analysis

a) *Physically divide an established community?*

No Impact. The CSL is an inactive landfill that occurs in the City of Colton at 850 Tropica Rancho Road. The immediate area surrounding the CSL is vacant and there are no buildings or structures within 1,000 feet of the property boundaries with the exception of electrical tower support structures that occurs adjacent to the southern end of the property, within the Southern California Edison (SCE) utility easement. The CSL has been in existence since 1964. Proposed closure activities and ongoing post-closure maintenance would not divide an established community. No impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

b) *Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?*

No Impact. According to the City of Colton’s General Plan, the CSL is designated Public Facility (PF). The area adjacent to the landfill is vacant. The Santa Ana River is located north and west of the CSL and is designated Floodway by the City of Colton’s General Plan. Areas within the La Loma Hills to the east and south are designated Residential Estates. Proposed closure activities and post-closure maintenance would be consistent with the present land use designation of the Project Site and would not require an amendment to the General Plan. The Proposed Project would not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. No impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None

Land Use and Planning Impact Conclusions:

No impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

12. MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X

Environmental Setting

According to the City of Colton’s General Plan, the Project Site is designated Public Facility (PF). The area adjacent to the site is vacant. The Santa Ana River is located north and west of the site and is designated Floodway in the City of Colton’s General Plan. Areas within the La Loma Hills to the east and south are designated Residential Estates.

Impact Analysis

a) *Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?*

No Impact. The CSL is not located within a Mineral Resource Zone. Implementation of the FCPMP would not impact mining operations located in the Santa Ana River floodplain or effect the development of a mineral resource. No impact on mineral resources would occur.

b) *Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?*

No Impact. Implementation of the proposed FCPMP for the CSL would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None

Mineral Resources Impact Conclusions:

No impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

13. NOISE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			X	
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration of groundborne noise levels?			X	
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL began operations in 1964 and ceased accepting waste on December 31, 2014. The immediate area surrounding the site is vacant and there are no buildings or structures within 1,000 feet of the property boundaries. At the southern end of the facility, SCE has a utility easement for high power transmission lines. Supporting structures are located on SCE’s property. No sensitive receptors, such as schools or acute care facilities, reside within the vicinity of the CSL.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?*
- b) *Generation of excessive groundborne vibration of groundborne noise levels?*

Less Than Significant. The noise generated from closure activities at the CSL would temporarily increase noise levels within the vicinity. Closure activities would be confined to daylight hours between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. Noise levels and vibrations generated from equipment required for closure activities, would not exceed former operational levels generated by the equipment previously used at the site. Practices employed on-site would include noise attenuation devices on all operating equipment and hearing protection for workers in accordance with all applicable standards (i.e., Cal- OSHA). No impact is expected with regards to noise or vibrations from closure activities. Due to the remote location of the CSL, nuisances from excessive noise are not anticipated. The nearest residential structure occurs approximately 0.6 miles southeast of the Project Site. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?*

No Impact. The CSL is located over six miles southwest of the San Bernardino International Airport and is not located within an airport land use plan. Implementation of the FCPMP would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area. Therefore, no impacts from aircraft noise would result to employees at the CSL.

Mitigation Measures:

None

Noise Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

14. POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL has been inactive since December 31, 2014. With the exception of general routine maintenance and monitoring, no other employees are regularly required at the site.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?*

No Impact. Closure activities would require the use of an independent contractor and their employees for the construction. Post-closure maintenance activities would be conducted by existing County employees. No new employees would result with implementation of the Proposed Project. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- b) *Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?*

No Impact. The CSL does not support any existing housing. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None

Population and Housing Impact Conclusions:

No impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

15. PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i. Fire protection?			X	
ii. Police protection?				X
iii. Schools?				X
iv. Recreation/Parks?				X
v. Other public facilities?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL is located within the City of Colton adjacent to the Santa Ana River, approximately 1.5 miles south of Interstate 10 and less than one-mile northwest of Interstate 215. Closure activities and post-closure maintenance would be provided by existing employees. The CSL is currently inactive, closed to the public and as does not support recreational activities.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Fire protection, Police protection, Schools, Recreation/Parks, Other public facilities?*
- i. **Less Than Significant.** During closure activities, on-site construction equipment would be supplied with fire extinguishers to respond to fire hazard situations. The final closure of the landfill will decrease the potential risk of fire within the landfill area as no solid waste activities and the use of petroleum-based equipment on the landfill face would occur. The current business emergency/contingency plan, which would continue to apply during closure activities and post-closure maintenance at the site, addresses potential situations regarding fire hazards and the response required by on-site personnel. No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
 - ii. **No Impact.** Previous disposal operations at the CSL did not require police or County sheriff services. At closure, the access road gates to be used by contractors would be replaced. An entrance sign and additional fencing will be installed along the south channel. The closure of the landfill would not require additional police protection. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
 - iii. **No Impact.** Closure activities would require the use of an independent contractor and their employees. Post-closure maintenance activities would be conducted by existing County

employees. No new employees would result with implementation of the Proposed Project and therefore, no increase in school services would result.

- iv. **No Impact.** Closure of the landfill would not induce population growth as no new employees would be required. Therefore, no impacts to recreational facilities would result. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
- v. **No Impact.** Implementation of the FCPMP would not result in the construction of new roads. Delivery of the final cover system and trips to the CSL for post-closure maintenance would occur on existing roads and systems currently in place. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None

Public Services Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

16. RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL is currently inactive, closed to the public and as does not support recreational activities.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project would not result in any new employees. Closure activities would require the use of an independent contractor and their employees. Post-closure maintenance activities would be performed by the County existing staff. No new employees would result with implementation of the Proposed Project. Therefore, no increase in the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities would occur. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- b) *Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?*

No Impact. Implementation of the FCPMP would not involve the construction of recreational facilities. Following closure activities, CSL would remain as open space. The Proposed Project would not require the construction or expansion of recreation facilities. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None

Recreation Impact Conclusions:

No impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

17. TRANSPORTATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?			X	
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?			X	
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?				X
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL began operations in 1964 and ceased accepting waste on December 31, 2014. The landfill is served by existing roadways. Regional access is provided by I-215 Freeway and local access is provided by Tropica Rancho Road from La Cadena Drive.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?*
- b) *Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?*

Less Than Significant. On February 23, 2021, a Trip Generation Assessment was prepared for the Proposed Project by Urban Crossroads. A copy of the report is available for review at the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works offices located at 825 E 3rd St, San Bernardino, CA 92415, Room 123, and on their website at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/dpw/Home.aspx>. Findings of the report are summarized herein.

Construction employees will range between 25 to 45 per day (for a total of 50 to 90 two-way daily passenger car trips). Construction employees on-site are divided between equipment operations and geosynthetic installation. Specifically, approximately 10-25 construction employees will be operating various equipment: scraper (4-6 employees), dozer (3 employees), excavator (1 or 2 employees), backhoe (1-2 employees), loader (1 employee), dump truck (3 or 4 employees), compactor (1-2 employees), motor grader (1 employee), water truck (2 employees), and pick-up truck (3 employees). Approximately 15-20 construction employees would be assigned for the geosynthetic installation: gradall forklift (3-4 employees), forklift (1 or 2 employees), trailer (1 employee), flatbed truck (1 employee), and geosynthetic welding/dewling equipment (6-8 employees). Employees are anticipated to arrive prior to 7 AM and may depart as late as 7 PM.

Construction activities related to the Proposed Project are anticipated to start in September 2021 and would continue over 13 months. Trucks will be utilized to deliver various materials for the closure: foundation soil, liner, closure turf, sand, binder, crushed miscellaneous base, other miscellaneous materials. During the peak construction period, a maximum of 150 trucks would be accessing the site (for a total of 300 two-way daily truck trips). Assuming truck trips would be evenly distributed over an 8-hour

day, this results in approximately 38 total truck trips during the peak hours. Trucks will be utilized to deliver various materials for the closure: foundation soil, liner, closure turf, sand, binder, crushed miscellaneous base, other miscellaneous materials.

In an effort to conduct a conservative analysis, the trip generation assessment assumes approximately 50% of the construction employees arrive/depart during the peak hours and truck trips are evenly distributed throughout the workday. However, effort should be made to reduce the truck activity during the peak commute periods of 7-9 AM and 4-6 PM. Based on the anticipated construction activity, the Proposed Project would generate 390 two-way trips per day, with 60 trips during the AM peak hour and 60 trips during the PM peak hour.

The County's Guidelines identifies that projects that can demonstrate a trip generation of less than 100 vehicle trips during the AM and PM peak hours may be exempt from a conducting a level of service (LOS) based traffic analysis. It should also be noted that the Proposed Project would contribute fewer than 50 peak hour trips to any off-site study area intersections (once the trips depart from the site). As such, additional level of service based traffic analysis is not required for the Proposed Project based on the County's Guidelines.

In addition to a Trip Generation Assessment, a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Memorandum, dated March 1, 2021, was prepared for the Proposed Project by Urban Crossroads. A copy of the report is available for review at the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works offices located at 825 E 3rd St, San Bernardino, CA 92415, Room 123, and on their website at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/dpw/Home.aspx>. Findings of the report are summarized herein.

In February 2020, the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority released the Recommended Traffic Impact Analysis Guidelines for Vehicle Miles Traveled and Level of Service Assessment that address both traditional automobile delay-based level of service and VMT analysis requirements. Using the OPR Technical Advisory and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority Guidelines as a reference, the City of Colton adopted the City of Colton VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled) Guidelines in June 2020 (City Guidelines). For this analysis, the City of Colton VMT Guidelines were used. City Guidelines identify various screening criteria that can be used to identify when a proposed project is anticipated to result in a less than significant impact without conducting a more detailed project level VMT analysis. Screening criteria described in the City Guidelines are as follows:

- Trip Screening
- Land Use Type Screening
- High Quality Transit Areas Screening
- Low VMT Area Screening

Of the available screening criteria, the Trip Screening and Land Use Type Screening were selected for further consideration. Consistent with City Guidelines, a land use project needs only to satisfy one of the above screening criteria to result in a less than significant impact.

1. Trip Screening - Consistent with OPR's Technical Advisory, City Guidelines state that projects that generate fewer than 110 daily vehicle trips may be presumed to have a less than significant impact.¹ The Proposed Project is anticipated to have between 25 and 45 construction related crew members at the site per day. Truck traffic during the import phase could reach as high as 150 trucks per day during a brief span of the overall construction effort. However, during the majority of the 13-month effort, daily vehicle trips are anticipated to be associated with

construction crew trips only, which would be within the 110 daily vehicle trip limits. Therefore, the trip screening criteria would be met.

2. Land Use Type Screening - City Guidelines identifies project types which are assumed to have a less than significant impact on City VMT. The assumption is based upon local serving projects redirecting local traffic from traveling to further locations, which thereby lowers VMT. Examples of project types include: local parks, public facilities, day care centers, student housing, etc. As part of the construction process the Proposed Project will be utilizing foundation soil sourced from onsite materials to reduce the distance haul trucks have to travel to and from the Proposed Project. Furthermore, upon completion of the Proposed Project, a Maintenance Plan at the CSL after closure and will continue to maintain the landfill for a period of not less than 30 years after the final closure of the entire landfill. The final closure plan provides for post-closure land use as non-irrigated open space, which would generate nominal VMT. Therefore, the Land Use Type Screening is met.

Based on a review of the City's applicable VMT screening criteria, the Proposed Project would appear to meet both the trip screening and land use type screening criteria as described within the City Guidelines. It is also important to note that the Proposed Project includes short-term construction-related traffic only and is anticipated to generate minimal traffic upon completion. No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?*

No Impact. The CSL is closed to the public and therefore no unforeseen hazards or incompatible uses are anticipated. No new roads are proposed as part of closure activities or during the post-closure maintenance period. Existing ingress and egress at the landfill would continue to apply during closure activities and the post-closure maintenance period. The existing entrance to the landfill would continue to provide sufficient access for emergency vehicles in case of any emergency. In addition, on-site personnel are given sufficient training to adequately address most on-site emergencies. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) *Result in inadequate emergency access?*

No Impact. Implementation of the FCPMP would utilize existing roadways and would not result in a change to existing emergency access at the landfill. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None

Transportation Impact Conclusions:

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

18. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
a) Listed or eligible for listing in California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or		X		
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.		X		

Environmental Setting

The CSL is an inactive landfill and began accepting solid waste in 1964 and occurs in the La Loma Hills adjacent to the Santa Ana River. Landfill activities have removed vegetation from the working area of the facility. Former solid waste activities have removed native soils within the footprint of the landfill.

Regulatory Setting

Effective July 1, 2015, Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) amended CEQA to require that: 1) a lead agency provide notice to those California Native American tribes that requested notice of projects proposed by the lead agency; and 2) for any tribe that responded to the notice within 30 days of receipt with a request for consultation, the lead agency must consult with the tribe. Topics that may be addressed during consultation include Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs), the potential significance of project impacts, type of environmental document that should be prepared, and possible mitigation measures and project alternatives.

Pursuant to AB 52, Section 21073 of the Public Resources Code defines California Native American tribes as “a Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004.” This includes both federally and non-federally recognized tribes. Section 21074(a) of the Public Resource Code defines TCRs for the purpose of CEQA as:

1. Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes (geographically defined in terms of the size and scope), sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:
 - a. included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources; and/or

- b. included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of Section 5020.1; and/or
- c. a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Because criteria a and b also meet the definition of a historical resource under CEQA, a TCR may also require additional consideration as a historical resource. TCRs may or may not exhibit archaeological, cultural, or physical indicators.

Recognizing that California tribes are experts in their tribal cultural resources and heritage, AB 52 requires that CEQA lead agencies provide tribes that requested notification an opportunity to consult at the commencement of the CEQA process to identify TCRs. Furthermore, because a significant effect on a TCR is considered a significant impact on the environment under CEQA, consultation is used to develop appropriate avoidance, impact minimization, and mitigation measures.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?*
- b) *A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1?*

Less Than Significant with Mitigation: On October 2, 2020, McKenna et al. conducted a Preliminary Native American Consultation effort through the Native American Heritage Commission. A copy of the report is available for review at the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works offices located at 825 E 3rd St, San Bernardino, CA 92415, Room 123, and on their website at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/dpw/Home.aspx>. Findings of the report are summarized herein.

The Native American Heritage Commission provided a response indicated that “positive” findings were noted although no specific information on the nature of the findings was provided. As discussed in the letter report, McKenna et al. assumed that “positive” finding is based on the proximity of the Santa Ana River – a major fresh water source located in an area known to have been utilized by Native Americans, and the proximity of the CSL to the communities of San Salvador, La Placita, and Agua Mansa. In the case of Agua Mansa (opposite the CSL and on the north/northwest side of the Santa Ana River), this community consisted of a population of Native American from New Mexico, relocated to this area in the 1840s-1860s by Juan Bandini (the Bandini Donation).

The Commission recommended contacting the individuals listed in the attached referral list, but specifically mentioned contact with the Serrano of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, indicating the Serrano were aware of the sensitivity and may have specific information pertinent to the issues related to the Landfill. McKenna et al. prepared a set of graphics that were attached to a cover letter sent to the 29 individuals/agencies identified by the Native American Heritage Commission. These letters were sent on October 3, 2020 and also included a brief description of the Proposed Project.

McKenna et al. received four responses:

1. **San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.** The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians (Ryan Nordness) replied via email and confirmed the CSL is within the San Manuel/Serrano ancestral territory. However, they also noted they have no concerns regarding the Proposed Project.
2. **Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation.** The Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians (Savannah Salas) responded via email and requested the contact information for the Lead Agency. McKenna et al. did not have the direct contact information but recommends the County representative initiate consultation with the Kizh Nation.
3. **Gabrielino/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians.** The Chair of the Gabrielino/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Anthony Morales, called McKenna et al. on October 14, 2020. Mr. Morales noted the CSL peripheral to the Gabrielino territory, which is generally (not ethnographically) bounded by the Santa Ana River. He did not have specific concerns for the CSL but noted the general sensitivity of the areas along the Santa Ana River to yield evidence of Native American use areas. Given the extent of disturbances and the nature of the CSL, he is not requesting additional consultation.
4. **Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians.** The Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians (Deneen Pelton) responded via email and noted the CSL is outside the ancestral territory (“Area of Historic Interest”) of the Rincon Luiseno. Ms. Pelton recommended contacting a representative closer to the CSL.

On March 10, 2021, the County of San Bernardino sent Project notification letters to the following California Native American tribes, which had previously submitted general consultation request letters pursuant to 21080.3.1(d) of the Public Resources Code:

- Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians

Each recipient was provided a brief description of the Proposed Project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the tribe has 30 days to request consultation. The 30-day response period concluded on April 10, 2021. As a result of the initial notification letters, the County of San Bernardino received the following responses:

- Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians: No response or request to consult was received.
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians: An email response was received. The tribe included mitigation measures for incidental finds and indicated that consultation was not requested at this time.
- Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation: No response or request to consult was received.
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians: No response or request to consult was received.

At the request of San Manuel, Mitigation Measures TCR-1 and TCR-2 (as listed below) shall be incorporated to ensure potential impacts to tribal cultural resources are reduced to the extent feasible.

Mitigation Measures

TCR-1: The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Cultural Resources Department (SMBMI) shall be contacted, as detailed in CR-1, of any pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources discovered during project implementation, and be provided information regarding the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment. Should the find be deemed significant, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), a cultural resources Monitoring and Treatment Plan shall be created by the archaeologist, in coordination with SMBMI, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to this Plan. This Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents SMBMI for the remainder of the project, should SMBMI elect to place a monitor on-site.

TCR-2: Any and all archaeological/cultural documents created as a part of the project (isolate records, site records, survey reports, testing reports, etc.) shall be supplied to the applicant and Lead Agency for dissemination to SMBMI. The Lead Agency and/or applicant shall, in good faith, consult with SMBMI throughout the life of the project.

Tribal Cultural Resources Impact Conclusions

Implementation of Mitigation Measures TCR-1 and TCR-2 would ensure that potential impacts to tribal cultural resources are reduced to the extent feasible.

19. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?				X
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?				X
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL is currently inactive (ceased accepting solid waste on December 31, 2014) and occurs in the City of Colton. The landfill is not served by domestic water, natural gas, public storm water drainage systems or telecommunication facilities.

Impact Analysis

- a) *Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?*

No Impact. The CSL is not served by a water or wastewater treatment provider. During closure activities, water would be delivered on-site for dust control purposes, and no new or expanded water or wastewater treatment would be required. The Proposed Project would not result in the need for additional energy supplies or communication services.

The CSL has an existing drainage system that was designed to handle the 100-year, 24-hour storm event. The additional storm drainage features proposed as part of the FCPMP would increase the ability of the current drainage system to convey storm water runoff away from critical areas such as closed cells of the landfill, the toes of slopes, and along access roads. All storm water discharges would continue to be directed toward natural, off-site drainage channels and would not affect public storm water systems. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- b) *Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project includes approval and implementation of the FCPMP for the CSL and would not result in a change to the existing water demand previously experienced during operations. Closure activities and post-closure maintenance of the landfill would not require significant water and therefore, water demands of the Proposed Project would not increase the use of groundwater supplies. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?*

No Impact. Proposed Project would not require new wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. The Proposed Project includes approval of the FCPMP for the CSL. The Proposed Project does not include any uses that would require wastewater treatment and therefore would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) *Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?*
- e) *Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?*

No Impact. Closure activities would involve the removal of some on-site structures including the hazardous materials storage shed, truck scale, and scale house. SWMD will remove all salvageable items prior to demolition of the scale house building and foundations. Structures and utilities, other than what is necessary for the post-closure maintenance (i.e., environmental control systems) would be disconnected and removed, or properly abandoned in place. Prior to final grading and placement of the cover, existing vegetative materials would be removed from the decks and slopes of the landfill without disturbing the underlying refuse. All materials generated by the clearing and grubbing operation would be buried in either the lower mound deck or the upper deck and covered with a minimum 1-foot (interim cover) of compacted foundation layer material. Demolition waste not disposed of on-site during closure activities, would be removed and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, State and local statutes at an appropriate disposal facility. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures

None Required

Utilities and Service Systems Impact Conclusions

No significant adverse impacts are identified, or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

20. WILDFIRE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project?				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				X
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				X
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				X

Environmental Setting

The CSL began operations in 1964 and ceased accepting waste on December 31, 2014. The CSL occurs in the City of Colton and is adjacent to the Santa Ana River and does not occur within a Fire Safety Overlay District. There are no existing trees or other biofuel on-site and the inactive landfill is not located adjacent to an area susceptible to wildfires.

Impact Analysis

a) *Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

No Impact. Implementation of the FCPMP would not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plant. Access to the site would continue from Tropica Rancho Road via La Cadena Drive. No proposed changes to the existing site access or roadways would result. In addition, closure activities and post-closure maintenance would follow requirements set forth in the CSL’s Emergency Response Plan. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

b) *Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?*

No Impact. The CSL occurs in the La Loma Hills adjacent to the Santa Ana River and according to County Zone and Overlay Map FH30B¹⁴ does not occur within a Fire Safety Overlay District. Former landfill activities have removed vegetation from the working area at the site. The area around the site is primarily uninhabited and no human occupancy structures exist on or adjacent to the site. An Emergency Response Plan has been prepared as part of the FCPMP. This plan outlines potential situations requiring emergency responses that may occur at the landfill during the post-closure maintenance period and identifies the initial action to be taken. Fire could potentially commence as either a landfill

¹⁴ http://www.sbcounty.gov/uploads/lus/hazmaps/fh30b_20100309.pdf

fire or a buffer zone fire. The Emergency Response Plan outlines the potential situations requiring emergency responses that may occur at the landfill during the post-closure maintenance period. Initial actions to be taken include:

- Contact the County of San Bernardino Fire Department, even if on-site capabilities are deemed adequate to extinguish fires or control future explosions. On-site closure construction personnel will be instructed to follow the Fire Department's directions and give their full cooperation.
- In the event of an off-site fire near the landfill, such as a brush fire, the operator will lend its personnel and equipment, if available, to the Fire Department to fight the fire.

Implementation of the Emergency Response Plan procedures would adequately address any potential impacts during closure construction. Final closure of the landfill would not expose people or property to wildland fires. No additional mitigation measures are required. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

No Impact. The Proposed Project includes the approval and implementation of the FCPMP for the CSL. Closure activities including the delivery of final cover material and construction equipment would be provided by the existing ingress and egress at the landfill. No proposed changes to the existing site access or roadways would be required. No other associated infrastructure is proposed and therefore no ongoing impacts would result. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

No Impact. According to County General Plan Figures FH30CB and FH30C, the Project Site is not located within an area susceptible to landslides or flooding, respectively. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not expose people or structures to an increased risk of floods or landslides resulting from post-fire slope instability. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

Mitigation Measures:

None required

Wildfire Impact Conclusions:

No impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

21. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			X	
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?			X	
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			X	

a) *Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?*

Less Than Significant. Much of the CSL has been disturbed by past disposal activities. Implementation of closure activities and post-closure maintenance would be within the existing "footprint" and would not disturb any additional areas. No native vegetation is present on-site and minimal animal life is present as a result of past and current activities (i.e., inspections, maintenance). Implementation of closure activities and post-closure maintenance would not create a loss, reduction, or deterioration of habitat or change in the diversity of any species of plant or animal or cause reduction in any unique, rare, threatened or endangered species of plant or animal. There are no historic structures on-site or within the vicinity that would be impacted by the Proposed Project. However, construction activities could impact tribal cultural resources. Implementation of Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-3 and TCR-1 through TCR-3, would ensure potential impacts are reduced to the extend feasible. No additional mitigation measures are warranted.

b) *Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?*

Less Than Significant. Cumulative impacts are defined as two or more individual effects that, when considered together, are considerable or that compound or increase other environmental impacts. The cumulative impact from several projects is the change in the environment that results from the incremental impact of the development when added to the impacts of other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable or probable future developments. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but

collectively significant, developments taking place over a period. The CEQA Guidelines, Section 15130 (a) and (b), states:

- (a) Cumulative impacts shall be discussed when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable.
- (b) The discussion of cumulative impacts shall reflect the severity of the impacts and their likelihood of occurrence, but the discussion need not provide as great detail as is provided of the effects attributable to the project. The discussion should be guided by the standards of practicality and reasonableness.

This Initial Study did not identify any impacts that would require mitigation. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in any cumulative impacts. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?*

Less Than Significant. This Initial Study did not identify any environmental effects which would result in substantial adverse effects on human beings. Implementation of San Bernardino County standards and guidelines and Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would ensure that the Proposed Project would have no substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly on an individual or cumulative basis. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

SECTION 5 – SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES

- BIO-1:** To avoid impacts to any nesting migratory birds, Project activities will be conducted outside of bird breeding season (February 1 through August 31). If start of construction must occur between February 1 and August 31, then a qualified biologist shall conduct a breeding bird surveys at the appropriate time of day/night during the appropriate weather conditions, no more than three days prior to the start of construction to determine if nesting is occurring. Preconstruction surveys shall focus on direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations, nesting stages, and nest behavior. Surveys shall evaluate all suitable areas including trees, shrubs, bare ground, burrows, cavities, and structures. The duration of the survey shall be dependent upon the size of the project site, density, and complexity of the habitat; and shall be sufficient to ensure complete and accurate data is collected.
- BIO-2:** If active occupied nests are found, they shall not be disturbed unless the qualified biologist verifies through non-invasive methods that either (a) the adult birds have not begun egg-laying and incubation, or (b) the juveniles from the occupied nests are capable of independent survival and will not be impacted by the removal of the nest. If the biologist is not able to verify one of the above conditions, then no disturbance shall occur within a distance specified by the qualified biologist for each nest or nesting site. The qualified biologist will determine the appropriate distance in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The size and location of buffer zones shall be based on nesting bird species, species behavior, nesting stage, species sensitivity to disturbance, and the intensity and duration of the disturbance activity.
- CUL-1:** In the event that cultural resources are discovered during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 60-foot buffer) shall cease and a qualified archaeologist meeting Secretary of Interior standards shall be hired to assess the find. Work on the other portions of the project outside of the buffered area may continue during this assessment period. Additionally, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Cultural Resources Department (SMBMI) shall be contacted, as detailed within TCR-1, regarding any pre-contact and/or historic-era finds and be provided information after the archaeologist makes his/her initial assessment of the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment.
- CUL-2:** If significant pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, the archaeologist shall develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan, the drafts of which shall be provided to SMBMI for review and comment, as detailed within TCR-1. The archaeologist shall monitor the remainder of the project and implement the Plan accordingly.
- CUL-3:** If human remains or funerary objects are encountered during any activities associated with the project, work in the immediate vicinity (within a 100-foot buffer of the find) shall cease and the County Coroner shall be contacted pursuant to State Health and Safety Code §7050.5 and that code enforced for the duration of the project.

GEO-1: During construction of the final cover system, the Project Proponent shall implement the following recommendations as provided in the February 2021 Seismic Hazard and Slope Stability Analysis prepared by Geo-Logic Associates.

- Soils used to construct engineered fills for the Proposed Project shall be free of asbestos, organic matter, refuse, hazardous materials, and other deleterious substances.
- Foundation fill soils should be placed in horizontal lifts of no greater than 12-inches when uncompacted. These soils shall be moisture conditioned as required and compacted in horizontal lifts.
- The minimum density of compacted fill should be 90% of the maximum dry density as established by the Modified Proctor Compaction Test (ASTM D1557)
- The maximum variance from the optimum moisture content, as established by the Modified Proctor Compaction Test (ASTM D1557), should not exceed plus or minus 2%.
- The top of the 3-foot-high gabion added to raise the existing South Channel gabion wall should be secured by anchoring. This anchoring may be achieved by a PVC-coated gabion wire-mesh extended horizontally as a tieback by a minimum of 8 feet (measured from the back side of gabion).
- Where either a new 1-foot-thick gabion is placed atop a new 3-foot-high gabion or a new 3-foot-high gabion is placed atop an existing gabion, the former shall be secured to the latter with galvanized wire ties or other means approved by the CQA engineer.
- A 12-oz non-woven geotextile should be placed beneath and behind the added gabions.

TCR-1: The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Cultural Resources Department (SMBMI) shall be contacted, as detailed in CR-1, of any pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources discovered during project implementation, and be provided information regarding the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment. Should the find be deemed significant, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), a cultural resources Monitoring and Treatment Plan shall be created by the archaeologist, in coordination with SMBMI, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to this Plan. This Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents SMBMI for the remainder of the project, should SMBMI elect to place a monitor on-site.

TCR-2: Any and all archaeological/cultural documents created as a part of the project (isolate records, site records, survey reports, testing reports, etc.) shall be supplied to the applicant and Lead Agency for dissemination to SMBMI. The Lead Agency and/or applicant shall, in good faith, consult with SMBMI throughout the life of the project.

SECTION 6 - REFERENCES

California Department of Conservation. California Important Farmland Finder
<https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/>

California Department of Conservation. Seismic Hazards Program, California Geological Survey
Interactive Map <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/>

County of San Bernardino. Hazard Overlay Map, FH30B and FH30C.

City of Colton. General Plan. Adopted July 19, 2016.

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<https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=850+Tropica+Rancho+Road%2C+Colton%2C+CA+> (accessed March 1, 2021).

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Program. October 2020.

South Coast Air Quality Management District. On-Road Passenger Vehicles & Delivery Trucks (2020).
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Sanitary Landfill, February 2021.

Urban Crossroads. Colton Sanitary Landfill Closure Vehicle Miles Traveled Memorandum. March 2,
2021.

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